

WILLIAM SCOTT FUNK, MSC, CWR, CAET

DIRECTOR OF WILDLIFE REHABILITATION/WILDLIFE HEALTH RESEARCHER

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AREAS OF EXPERIENCE

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Veterinary nursing, wildlife disease surveillance, disease mitigation, post-mortem examinations, parasitology, PCR, toxicology, microbiology, captive wildlife husbandry, wildlife management

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- | | |
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| 2021 - 2022 | MSc Awarded 2022 Wild Animal Biology
<i>University of London – Royal Veterinary College, London, England, UK</i>
Supervisor: Dr Tammy Shadbolt
Thesis: Morphologic and Molecular Characterization of Gastrointestinal Helminths in Red Kites (<i>Milvus milvus</i>) in England and Wales |
| 2015 - 2020 | BSAg Awarded 2020 Natural Resource Ecology and Management
Concentration: Wild Animal Biology (Pre-Veterinary)
<i>Oklahoma State University – Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management, Stillwater, OK, US</i> |
| 2015 - 2020 | BS Awarded 2020 Biology
<i>Oklahoma State University – Department of Integrated Biology, Stillwater, OK, US</i> |

CURRENT CERTIFICATIONS

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| Jul 2022 | Marine Mammal Medic
British Divers Marine Life Rescue |
| Aug 2021 | Advanced Open Water Diver
Professional Association of Divers Instructors |
| Aug 2020 | Certified Animal Euthanasia Technician
Oklahoma Board of Veterinary Medical Practitioners |
| Jan 2020 | Certified Wildlife Rehabilitator
International Wildlife Rehabilitator Council |

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Wildlife Rehabilitation, Wildcare Oklahoma, Noble, OK, US

Jan. 2024 – Present, Full-time, 60 hours/week (Salary \$37,000/yr)

- Manage and participate in the day-to-day rehabilitative care of wildlife patients, including the duties of all previous roles, as well as implementing and evaluating animal husbandry practices, feeder animal breeding programs, and diet revisions.
- Plan, initiate, and delegate research projects, including establishing operating policies and procedures; guiding and advising rehabilitation team members on individual research projects; providing support for data collection, proofing, analysis, and reporting, as well as providing guidance on presentations given at conferences, workshops, or other meetings; author papers and present lectures on husbandry, enclosure design and construction, and conservation topics; participate in NWRA, IWRC, and other conservation or education programs, scientific meetings, conferences, workshops; planning and coordinating regular scientific advisory board meetings in coordination with the Executive Director; and establishing and maintaining professional relationships with external researchers and other collaborators.
- Recommend, delegate, edit, and write as well as ensure adherence to animal care policies, procedures, and protocols to assure compliance with IWRC, NWRA, ODWC, and USFWS standards and laws, as well as research and write grant proposals for animal care, research, and enclosure development as appropriate.
- Assist as a technical expert and key spokesperson with regards to animal care and in potential crisis situations, establishing and maintaining a working relationship with Federal, State, and NGO officials, including biologists, game wardens, land managers, etc., and participate in public speaking engagements, organizational management, enclosure design, and public connections.

Private Researcher/Social Media Manager, Funk's Wildlife Disease Lab, Noble, OK, US

Sep. 2022 - Present, Part-time, 10 hours/week (Freelance)

- Established an opportunistic disease surveillance program for euthanized raptors that were admitted for rehabilitation in Oklahoma, conducting post-mortem examinations and sample collection on mammalian, herptilian, and avian cases, parasite screening and identification, creating impression smears and tissue mounts for parasitology and mycology testing using appropriate staining and identification methods, developing standardized protocols for post-mortem examinations, sample collection, and in-house diagnostic testing, and conducting data analysis of post-mortem examination results.
- Manage social media outreach pages to communicate wildlife health and disease related topics.

Wildlife Health Specialist, Wildcare Oklahoma, Noble, OK, United States

Aug 2023 - Dec 2023, Part-time, 20 hours/week (Salary \$15/hr)

- Assist in daily veterinary care of wildlife patients performing intake physical examinations, anesthesia, diagnostic testing (including cytology, fecal analyses, and hematology), radiographs, surgical assistance, wound management, physical therapy, fluid therapy, drug dosage and administration, euthanasia, and necropsies.
- Design and implement research projects, protocols, and objectives; Conduct scientific literature reviews and critical analyses.

Veterinary ICU Nurse, Neel Veterinary Hospital, Oklahoma City, OK, US

Sep 2022 - Oct 2023, Full Time, 40 hours/week (Salary \$19/hr)

- Fulfill the duties of charge nurse, including managing the employees, patients, and treatments in the ICU; establishing and maintaining communication between doctors, owners, technicians, and assistants; training new employees in the daily tasks of the ICU as well as medical treatments, including pharmacology, wound management, phlebotomy, and laboratory testing; designed and implemented a new training checklist for new employees.
- Perform advanced medical treatments, including the placement and maintenance of central lines and nasogastric tubes, facilitation of hyperbaric oxygen treatments, perform ultrasound-guided sample collection, and urinary catheter placement (male and female, canine and feline).
- Maintain blood donor program, including keeping records, collecting blood for transfusions, blood typing, and cross matching.
- Selected to be a member of the initial team for a community outreach program from a pool of more than 75 veterinary clinics.
- Other duties as described in Veterinary ICU Assistant position.

Graduate Researcher (Raptor Parasitology), Zoological Society of London, London, England, UK

Sept 2021 - Sept 2022, Full Time, 40 hours/week (Unpaid)

- Conduct scientific literature reviews and critical analyses, write grant proposals, and create and present scientific reports, case studies, PowerPoint presentations, and scientific posters.
- Develop and implement research protocols for microscopic and molecular research to conduct microscopic identification of nematodes using dichotomous keys and molecular protocols to perform DNA extractions, PCRs, gel electrophoresis and PCR purification for DNA sequencing.

Veterinary ICU Assistant, Neel Veterinary Hospital, Oklahoma City, OK, US

Dec 2020 - Jun 2021, Part-time, 12 hours/week (Salary \$15/hr)

- Monitor and care for critical patients, including catheter placement and maintenance, phlebotomy, wound management, drug dosage and administration, radiographs, CPR, surgical assistance, anesthesia, and euthanasia.
- Assist the exotics veterinarian on zoo welfare checks; provide husbandry and diet recommendations to owners and operators; provide emergency and critical care to exotic species, including bobcats, macaques, and raptors.

Wildlife Veterinary Assistant, Wildcare Oklahoma, Noble, OK, US

Aug 2020 - Jun 2021, Full-time, 70 hours/week (Salary \$650/wk)

- Assist in daily veterinary care of wildlife patients performing intake physical examinations, anesthesia, diagnostic testing, radiographs, surgical assistance, wound management, physical therapy, fluid therapy, drug dosage and administration, euthanasia, and necropsies.
- Train, manage, and direct animal care staff, fellows, interns, and volunteers in daily husbandry and medical practices.
- Write and update animal care protocols based on the latest scientific literature.

Wildlife Rehabilitation Senior Fellow, Wildcare Oklahoma, Noble, OK, US

Jun 2021 - Aug 2021, Full-time, 60 hours/week (Salary \$450/wk)

- Same duties as described in Wildlife Rehabilitation Intern position. Expanded scope to include avian patients.
- Train first year fellows, interns, and volunteers.

Lab Technician (Prairie Chicken Diet Analysis), Oklahoma Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Stillwater, OK, US

Oct 2019 - May 2020, Part-time, 20 hours/week (Salary \$10/hr)

- Sort invertebrate field samples to their specified Orders using dichotomous keys and obtained morphometrics. Compile morphometric data into Excel and conduct statistical analyses.

Necropsy Technician, Oklahoma Animal Disease Diagnostics Laboratory, Stillwater, OK, US

Apr 2019 - Apr 2020, Part-time, 20 hours/week (Salary \$10/hr)

- Assist pathologists and veterinary students with necropsies and sample collections. Remove and prepare brains from suspected Rabies subjects to send off for testing.
- Trim biopsy samples for histological slide production. Decalcify biopsy samples using acids when necessary. Sort and file tissues slides according to month and accession number.

Maintenance Assistant and Animal Enrichment Developer, Grey Snow Eagle House, Perkins, OK, US

Sep 2017 - May 2018, Part-time, 20 hours/week (Salary \$10/hr)

- Design perches and enrichment items for the eagles and education birds.
- Assist with the capture and care of permanent resident golden and bald eagles.
- Assist in the ground's maintenance at the aviary and perform repairs on enclosures and perches.

Wildlife Rehabilitation Intern, Wildcare Oklahoma, Noble, OK, US

May 2017 - Aug 2017, Full-time, 60 hours/week (Salary \$350/wk)

- Provide daily rehabilitative care to native orphaned and injured wildlife species, including appropriate diet preparation and administration, fluid and medication administration, and monitoring for abnormal behaviors, sickness, or injury. Primarily focused on raccoons, mesocarnivores, riparian mammals, rabies vector species, and reptiles.
- Capture diverse animal species for vaccinations, examinations, sedation, and release, including bobcats, coyotes, fawns, and free flying birds.
- Advise the public in the proper responses to encountering injured and orphaned animals.

Wildlife Technician (Bear Capture Technician), Oklahoma Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Stillwater, OK, US

May 2016 - Aug 2016, Full-time, 40 hours/week (Salary \$10/hr)

- Set and maintain trapping mechanisms, which includes bucket snares, barrel traps, and culvert traps; prepare and administer sedative drugs via jabstick and monitor bears while under sedation.
- Catalog information about captured bears, such as body dimensions, weight, markings, and injuries; gather biological samples, including hair, tissue, blood, and a premolar tooth; attach ear tags and radio collars, and track tagged bears using portable radio telemetry.

Field/Lab Technician (Coyote Diet Analysis), Oklahoma State University – Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management, Stillwater, OK, US

Jan 2016 - May 2016, Part-time, 20 hours/week (Unpaid)

- Gather coyote scat samples. Prepare samples for examination, including logging, washing, and preparing slides. Examine and identify hair samples from scat to determine species of prey.

EXTERNSHIPS AND WORKSHOPS

May 2022	Animal Care Externship 40 hours, <i>Oklahoma Primate Sanctuary</i> , Newcastle, OK, United States
May 2022	Pathological Investigations Externship 80 hours, <i>Zoological Society of London</i> , London, England, United Kingdom
Apr 2022	Wildlife Rehabilitation Externship 80 hours, <i>Secret World Wildlife Rescue</i> , East Huntspill, England, United Kingdom
Mar 2022	Wildlife Rehabilitation Externship 40 hours, <i>Wildlife Aid</i> , Leatherhead, England, United Kingdom
Jul 2021	Vets-in-the-Wild Undergraduate Externship 120 hours, <i>Ecolife Expeditions</i> , Potchefstroom, NWP, South Africa
May 2019	International Scholar Laureate Program: Delegation on Medicine 150 hours, <i>Envision Experience</i> , Melbourne and Sydney, Australia
June 2012	National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine 120 hours, <i>Envision Experience</i> , Houston, TX, United States

GRANTS, HONORS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2024	\$800	USD	Dr. Linda Wolf CARE for Wildlife Education Scholarship
2023	Merit Award		Innovetive Ambassador Program: Selected for excellent demonstration of skill, expertise, and dedication to veterinary medicine for a fully funded 6-day community service program from a pool of over 75 hospitals.
2023-2024	\$2,250	USD	Innovetive Petcare Penn Foster Veterinary Technician Sponsorship (associates); per annum
2022	£1,000	GBP	Royal Veterinary College Postgraduate Research Grant Project Title: Morphologic and Molecular Characterization of Gastrointestinal Helminths in Red Kites (<i>Milvus milvus</i>) in England and Wales.
2021	£11,025	GBP	Royal Veterinary College Postgraduate Bursary
2016	\$4,500	USD	Wentz Undergraduate Research Grant Project Title: The Effect of Human Proximity on American Black Bear Feeding Habits.
2015	\$1,000	USD	Joseph Fleming Memorial Scholarship
2015-2020	\$10,000	USD	Oklahoma State University Tuition Waiver Scholarship; per annum
2015-2019	\$10,000	USD	Oklahoma Regents Scholarship (bachelors); per annum
2015	\$2,500	USD	Freshman Research Scholarship Project Title: Coyote Diets in Relation to Controlled Burns.
2014	Service Award		Eagle Scout

MANUSCRIPTS IN REVIEW OR PREPARATION

In Peer Review	Funk, W. , Shadbolt, T., Blake, D., Fox, M., Sainsbury, T. "Morphologic and molecular identification of <i>Porrocaecum angusticolle</i> in free-living red kites (<i>Milvus milvus</i>) in England and Wales: disease risk implications for translocation to Europe." Returned for revision in the <i>Journal of Wildlife Management</i>
In Peer Review	Funk, W. , Abbott, K., Bryant, D. "Comparative enclosure design for red fox (<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>) in a rehabilitation setting: a case study." Returned for revision in <i>Journal of Wildlife Rehabilitation</i> .
In Preparation	Funk, W. , Abbott, K. "Morbidity, Mortality, and Release Rates of Raptors Admitted to an Oklahoma Rehabilitation Center between November 2019 and November 2023."
In Preparation	Funk, W. "Morbidity and Mortality of Raccoons Admitted to an Oklahoma Rehabilitation Center Between 2015 and 2023"

GRAY LITERATURE

2024	Funk, W. , Abbott, K., Gundlach, E., Thomas, M., Rusinko, P., Pline, J., Suttcliffe, K. (2024). Animal Care Protocols. WildCare Oklahoma. Noble, OK, United States. <i>In-House Protocols</i>
2022	Funk, W. (2022) Avian necropsy protocols. WildCare Oklahoma. Noble, OK, United States. <i>In-House Protocols</i>

PRESENTATIONS

Oral Presentations

2024	Funk, W. "Research and Rehabilitation: Bridging the Gap Between Citizen Science and Academia". IWRC Tea and Coffee Webinar (Mar. 25, 2024). Online. PowerPoint.
2022	Funk, W., Shadbolt, T., Blake, D., and Fox, M. "Morphologic and Molecular Characterization of Nematodes in Red Kites (<i>Milvus milvus</i>) in England and Wales". Royal Veterinary College Postgraduate Research Symposium (Sept. 9, 2022). ZSL, London, England. PowerPoint.

Poster Presentations

2022	Funk, W., Abbott, K., and Bryant, D. "Comparative Enclosure Design for Red Fox (<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>) in a Rehabilitation Setting: A Case Study". Royal Veterinary College Postgraduate Case Study Symposium (May 31, 2022). RVC, London, England.
2017	Funk, W., Taylor, C., and Grant, L. "A Comparison of the Growth of C3 and C4 Monocots in Sandy Soil". Botany Department Research Symposium (Dec. 6, 2017). OSU, Stillwater, OK, United States. Poster
2016	Funk, W., Sanderson, J., Wilkins, A., and Meyer, D. "Effect of Light Quality and

- Quantity on Growth and Development of C3 and C4 Grasses". Botany Department Research Symposium (Apr. 28, 2016). OSU, Stillwater, OK, United States. Poster
- 2016 Funk, W., Fraser, S., Fuhlendorf, S. "Coyote Diets in Relation to Controlled Burns". Henry Bellman Department of Undergraduate Research Symposium (Apr. 15, 2016) and Karen L. Smith Undergraduate Research Symposium (Apr. 21, 2016). OSU, Stillwater, OK, United States. Poster

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Horse Science Academy at Oklahoma State University. Student Instructor.

The Equine Athlete. 8-hour lab and lecture. Nov. 2020

Parasites, Their Management and Anthelmintic Resistance. 8-hour lab and lecture. Nov. 2019

Equine Anatomy. 8-hour lab and lecture. Nov. 2018

Operant Conditioning and First Aid. 8-hour lab and lecture. Nov. 2017

NONTRADITIONAL SCIENTIFIC OUTLETS

Newsletters Articles

Summer 2021 "Raptor Renesting". Wildcare Oklahoma Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2021 "Brumation". Wildcare Oklahoma Quarterly Newsletter

Social Media Pages

2023 - Present Content creator for Funk's Wildlife Disease Lab (Facebook, Instagram)

2020 - Present Content creator for Wildcare Oklahoma (Facebook, Instagram)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCES

2024 - Present *Oklahoma Chapter of The Wildlife Society. Secretary of the Board of Directors.* Oklahoma City, OK, United States

2024 - Present *Tricord Ranch Foundation. Member of the Board of Directors.* Oklahoma City, OK, United States

2023 - 2024 *Tricord Ranch Foundation. Advisory Board Member with a Focus on Conservation.* Oklahoma City, OK, United States

Nov 2023 *Royal Veterinary College. Veterinary Student Interview Team:* Interviewed prospective students for the RVC's Class of 2029 BVM Candidates. Ft. Worth, TX, United States

Apr 2023 *Animal Balance and Innovetive Petcare. Induction and Intubation Technician:* Induced and intubated 300+ dogs and cats over two days for a low-cost spay/neuter and vaccination clinic for the Whiteriver Apache Tribe. Whiteriver, AZ, United States

Jan - May 2020 *Oklahoma City Zoo. General Volunteer:* Worked in a variety of stations, including wayfinding, elephant presentations, stingray bay, and giraffe feeding. Oklahoma City, OK, United States

Sep 2017, 2018 *Oklahoma State Fair Birthing Center. Student Volunteer:* Monitored pregnant and newborn livestock, assist veterinarians with the birth of pigs, goats, and sheep. Oklahoma City and Tulsa, OK, United States

May - Aug 2018 *WildCare Oklahoma. Animal Care Volunteer:* Volunteered on Raccoon, Rabies Vector, Riparian Mammal, Reptile, and Predator teams. Noble, OK, United States

Mar 2017 *Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma. Spring Migration Event Volunteer:* Managed a booth on mitigation practices to prevent mortality to migrating birds with a focus on educating both children and adults. Perkins, OK, United States

Oct 2015 *Oklahoma State University. Homecoming Council Residential Life Chair Member.* Stillwater, OK, United States

2015 - 2016 *Oklahoma State University. Drummond Hall Community Council Floor President.* Stillwater, OK, United States

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (NRWA) Member, 2024 - Present

Association of Wildlife Veterinary Technicians and Nurses (AWildVTN) Member, 2024 - Present

Duck's Unlimited Oklahoma Chapter Member, 2024 - Present

Wildlife Disease Association Member, 2023 - Present

Wild Animal Alumni Association Member, 2023 - Present

International Wildlife Rehabilitators Council (IWRC) Member, 2020 - Present

European Wildlife Disease Association Student Member, 2022-2023

The Wildlife Society Oklahoma State University Chapter Student Member, 2018-2020

SELECT RELEVANT TRAININGS

AWildVTN: May Community Discussion Hour - Avian Hematology, May 13, 2024

NWRA: Avian Clinical Pathology, Mar. 1, 2024

Neel Veterinary Hospital: Septic Peritonitis: ER to ICU, Aug 16, 2023

Idexx Learning Center: Preventative Care - Diagnostics at Every Life Stages, Jun 27, 2023

British Divers Marine Life Rescue: Marine Mammal Rescuer Training, Jul 3, 2022

Hoedspruit Reptile Centre: Veterinary Reptile Medicine Course, Aug 1, 2020

IWRC: Pain Management, Feb 20, 2020

IWRC: Zoonoses, Feb 19, 2020

IWRC: Basic Wildlife Rehabilitation, Dec 2, 2017

Safe Capture International: Chemical Immobilization of Animals, Mar 14-15, 2016