MICHAEL T. STEWART

PhD Candidate • Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Alice, TX • Tel: +1 903.467.7604 • E-mail: michael.stewart@students.tamuk.edu

Expertise: Demographic modeling, spatial ecology, telemetry and movement ecology, avian field methods, wildlife capture, science communication

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

2022–Present **PhD** | projected Dec. 2027 | Wildlife and Rangeland Sciences
Texas A&M University-Kingsville – Kingsville, TX
Supervisor: Dr. Ashley M. Tanner
Dissertation title: Habitat use, population demographics, and migration ecology of Gray Hawks in the southwestern United States

2019–2021 **MS** | December 2021 | Biology
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley – Edinburg, TX
Supervisor: Dr. Timothy Brush
Thesis title: Home range dynamics and juvenile dispersal of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley [UTRGV ScholarWorks]

2017–2018 **GCert** | May 2018 | Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems
North Carolina State University – Raleigh, NC

2012–2015 **BS** | December 2015 | Fisheries and Wildlife Science, *cum laude*
Oregon State University – Corvallis, OR

2011–2012 **MBA** | October 2012 | Master of Business Administration
Webster University – St. Louis, MO

2008–2009 **BSAST** | September 2009 | Nuclear Engineering Technology
Thomas A. Edison State College – Trenton, NJ

2001–2003 **BS** | January 2003 | Human Resources
New School University – New York, NY

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Kalisek M, Tanner AM, Tanner EP, Lozano TH, and **Stewart MT** (2026). Shifts in Communal Roost Use by Vultures During Winter Storm Uri. *Journal of Raptor Research*. doi:10.3356/jrr26012

Stewart MT (2026). Evidence for year-round residency of Gray Hawks from the Lower Rio Grande Valley to Webb County, Texas. *The Southwestern Naturalist*. doi:10.1894/0038-4909-70.2.10

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Singh A, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (2026). Scale-specific habitat selection by *Buteo plagiatus* (Gray Hawk) across life stages at the northeastern edge of its range. *Ornithological Applications*. doi:10.1093/ornithapp/duag016

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Singh A, Clark WS, and Millsap BA (2026). Home sweet temporary home: Patch use by unpaired Gray Hawks in a highly fragmented, rapidly changing landscape. *Journal of Raptor Research*. doi:10.3356/jrr2510

Stewart MT, Rogers JR, and Biles KS (2025). Early breeding by White-tailed Hawks in South Texas. *Bulletin of the Texas Ornithological Society*.

Stewart MT, Millsap BA, Pyle P, and Tanner AM (2025). Systematic review of age at first breeding in diurnal raptors of the United States and Canada. *Journal of Raptor Research*. doi:10.3356/jrr2542

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (2025). Exploratory movements and natal dispersal of Gray Hawks (*Buteo plagiatus*) in South Texas, USA. *Biotropica*. doi:10.1111/btp.70068

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (2025). Habitat loss and its behavioral effects on a female Gray Hawk in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, USA. *Human-Wildlife Interactions*. doi:10.26077/jhbn-0v18

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Bilodeau SA, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (2024). A Gray Hawk's response to wildfire in Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge. *Bulletin of the Texas Ornithological Society*.

Stewart MT, Farese ER, and Clark WS (2024). Gray Hawks reusing old nests, just not their own. *Bulletin of the Texas Ornithological Society*.

Stewart MT and Clark WS (2023). Response to: Gray Hawk nest with five fledglings in South Texas. *Bulletin of the Texas Ornithological Society*.

Clark WS and **Stewart MT** (2023). The interesting story of the oldest known Gray Hawk. *North American Bird Bander*.

Stewart MT, Pyle P, and Clark WS (2023). Molt and body measurements for Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. *Journal of Field Ornithology*. *doi:10.5751/jfo-00389-940410*

Stewart MT, Clark WS, Millsap BA, Bibles BD, and Brush T (2023). Adult home range size and juvenile movements of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas, USA. *Journal of Raptor Research*. doi:10.3356/jrr-22-23

Stewart MT and Millsap BA (2022). Challenges adapting a backpack harness for use on Gray Hawks (*Buteo plagiatus*). *Journal of Raptor Research*. doi:10.3356/jrr-21-31

Stewart MT and Clark WS (2021). White-tailed Kites breeding during winter in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. *Bulletin of the Texas Ornithological Society*.

DATA RELEASES

Stewart MT (2026). Data from: Study "Multi-Scale Spatial and Movement Ecology of Gray Hawks in a Fragmented Subtropical Landscape". Movebank Data Repository. doi:10.5441/001/1.664

MANUSCRIPTS IN REVIEW

Stewart MT, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (*In review*). Evaluating playback effectiveness for Gray Hawk detection and marked-female resighting in South Texas. *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology*.

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Singh A, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (*In review*). Social status structures environmental associations in Gray Hawks (*Buteo plagiatus*). *Ecosphere*.

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Singh A, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (*In review*). Behavioral flexibility in Gray Hawks: Activity rhythms and movement patterns across urban and thermal gradients. *Movement Ecology*.

Stewart MT, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (*In review*). Home-range size is decoupled from structural availability but linked to selection strength in a subtropical raptor. *Journal of Ornithology*.

Stewart MT, Singh A, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (*In review*). Behavior-dependent habitat selection reveals conspecific attraction in unpaired Gray Hawks. *Ibis*.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Stewart MT, Millsap BA, Tanner AM, and Clark WS (*In preparation*). Gray Hawk population demographics in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of South Texas: Insights for conservation.

GRANTS, AWARDS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

Research Grants & Funding

2026	Western Bird Banding Association research grant (with Katheryn Watson) Project: Comparing Tropical and Northern Parulas for Evidence of Hybridization	$1,000
2026	Blake-Nuttall Fund grant, Nuttall Ornithological Club (with Katheryn Watson) Project: Comparing Tropical and Northern Parulas for Evidence of Hybridization	$3,000
2024	US Fish and Wildlife Service research grant	$10,000
2024	The William Burnham Memorial Fund of The Peregrine Fund Project: Investigating Migratory Patterns and Population Dynamics of Threatened Gray Hawks in Texas	$5,000
2024	Texas Ornithological Society research grant	$584

Fellowships & Awards

2026	Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation Fellowship	$26,400
2026	American Ornithological Society Travel Grant	$600
2024	BioOne Ambassador Award	$1,000

Scholarships & Honors

2026	Dr. Howard & Beth Hoekje Conservation Scholarship	$1,250
2026	South Texas Quail Coalition Scholarship	$2,000
2026	Phillip M. Plant Graduate Scholarship in Wildlife Research	$1,200
2025	South Texas Quail Coalition Scholarship	$2,000
2025	Alec D. Ritzell Memorial Education Scholarship	$1,400
2024	South Texas Quail Coalition Scholarship	$500
2024	C.R. and Rebecca Palmer Graduate Student Scholarship in Wildlife Management	$1,300
2023	South Texas Quail Coalition Scholarship	$975
2023	C.R. and Rebecca Palmer Graduate Student Scholarship in Wildlife Management	$1,320
2009	Thomas Edison State College's Arnold Fletcher Award for exceptional achievement in independent learning	
2002	United States Navy's Master Training Specialist designation	

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2006–2019 **Chief, Public Affairs Plans and Operations, US Army South**
United States Army
Senior culminating assignment concluding 13 years of commissioned service across the Field Artillery, Adjutant General Corps (personnel and human resources management), and Public Affairs career fields, with progressive leadership responsibilities in operations, personnel management, organizational communication, and strategic planning within joint and multinational environments.

1999–2006 **Supply Officer, USS Pelican (MHC-53)**
United States Navy
Commissioned service following five years of enlisted service in the Navy Nuclear Power Program, including assignments as a machinist's mate, engineering laboratory technician, and instructor at the Nuclear Power Training Unit, Ballston Spa, NY, with responsibilities in propulsion plant operations, water chemistry, and radiological controls.

EDITORIAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2026–Present **Associate Editor** for the *Journal of Raptor Research*
2025–Present **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee** for the Raptor Research Foundation
2020–Present **Membership Committee** for the American Ornithological Society

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2025 **Guest Lecturer**
Wildlife Management Techniques (RWSC 3310)
Raptor trapping techniques
Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX

2023 **Guest Lecturer**
Wildlife Management Techniques (RWSC 3310)
Raptor trapping techniques
Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, TX

2001–2003 **Instructor**
Naval Nuclear Power Training Command, Ballston Spa, NY
Engineering Laboratory Technician (NEC 9502)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Oral presentations

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Singh A, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (2026). Scale-specific habitat selection by *Buteo plagiatus* (Gray Hawk) across life stages at the northeastern edge of its range. Annual Meeting of the American Ornithological Society, Amherst, MA.

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Singh A, Clark WS, and Millsap BA (2025). Home sweet temporary home: Patch use by unpaired Gray Hawks in a highly fragmented, rapidly changing landscape. Annual Meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation, San Jose, Costa Rica.

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Millsap BA, Smith JA, Ballard BM, and Clark WS (2024). Habitat use and population demographics of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Annual Meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation, Charlotte, NC.

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (2024). Natal dispersal and age at first breeding of Gray Hawks (*Buteo plagiatus*) in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Annual Meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation, Charlotte, NC.

Stewart MT, Tanner AM, Millsap BA, and Clark WS (2024). Habitat loss and the behavioral effects on a female Gray Hawk in South Texas. Annual Meeting of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Houston, TX.

Poster presentations

Stewart MT, Clark WS, Millsap BA, Bibles BD, and Brush T (2022). Adult home range size and juvenile movements of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Annual Meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

POPULAR ARTICLES

Stewart MT and Tanner AM (2024). From Nestling to Nest: Tracking the Lives of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. *Texas Wildlife Magazine*. Texas Wildlife Association.

Stewart MT and Tanner AM (2023). Gray Hawks: An Urban Success Story? *Caesar Kleberg Tracks*. Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute.

AD HOC REVIEWER (2023–Present)

- *Ecosphere* (2)
- *Journal of Field Ornithology* (1)
- *Journal of Raptor Research* (3)
- *Ornithological Applications* (1)
- *Scientific Reports* (1)
- *The Southwestern Naturalist* (1)

BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of *Introduction to Raptors and Their Conservation* by Boal CW and Bibles BD. Forthcoming. In Contemporary Issues in Raptor Conservation and Management (Boal CW and Bibles BD, Editors). Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD, USA.
- Review of *Raptors of Texas: A Natural History of Diurnal Birds of Prey* by Farquhar CC and Boal CW (2022). Texas A&M University Press, College Station, TX, USA. Published in Texas Birds Annual 18:34.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

- **American Ornithological Society**: Life Member (2015−Present)
- **Association of Field Ornithologists**: Life Member (2016−Present)
- **Raptor Research Foundation**: Life Member (2019−Present)
- **Western Bird Banding Association**: Life Member (2015−Present)
- **Wilson Ornithological Society**: Life Member (2023−Present)

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION, OUTREACH, AND NONTRADITIONAL SCHOLARLY OUTPUTS

Professional and Technical Presentations

- **Stewart MT** (2026). Applying GPS telemetry to raptor movement ecology: Home ranges, dispersal, and behavior. Western Bird Banding Association, Virtual.
- **Stewart MT** (2023). Home range dynamics and juvenile movements of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Hawk Migration Association of North America, Virtual.

Community and Public Outreach Presentations

- **Stewart MT** (2026). Raptor trapping methods and data collection. Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Texas A&M University–Kingsville, Kingsville, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2026). Applying GPS telemetry to raptor movement ecology: Home ranges, dispersal, and behavior. Spring Chirp Birding Festival, Weslaco, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2026). Habitat use, population demographics, and migration ecology of Gray Hawks in the southwestern United States. Laredo Birding Festival, Laredo, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2025). Habitat use and population demographics of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Coastal Bend Audubon Society, Corpus Christi, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2024). Raptor banding and hawk migration. Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Texas A&M University–Kingsville, Kingsville, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2024). Habitat use and population demographics of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Raptor Week, Virtual.
- **Stewart MT** (2024). Habitat use and population demographics of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Texas Ornithological Society, Weslaco, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2023). Habitat use and population demographics of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival, Harlingen, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2023). Home range dynamics and juvenile movements of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Spring Chirp Birding Festival, Weslaco, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2022). Population demographics and habitat use of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Arroyo Colorado Audubon Society, Harlingen, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2022). Home range dynamics and juvenile movements of Gray Hawks in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Spring Chirp Birding Festival, Weslaco, TX.
- **Stewart MT** (2021). Home range dynamics and juvenile dispersal of Gray Hawks (*Buteo plagiatus*) in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival, Harlingen, TX.

RELEVANT TRAINING

- Introduction to Raptor Handling and Banding Workshop offered by IBO, Boise, ID (2026).
- Home Range Estimation in R Workshop, Raptor Research Foundation Annual Meeting (2024).
- Bayesian Modeling Workshop, Raptor Research Foundation Annual Meeting (2023).
- Harnessing Raptors with Transmitters Workshop, Raptor Research Foundation Annual Meeting (2022).
- Yellow Rails and Rice Festival Banding Workshop, Jennings, LA (2017).
- Advanced Bird-banding Course offered by IBP, Wolf Ridge, MN (2017).
- Fundamentals of Bird Banding (Passerines) online course, National Conservation Training Center (2017).
- Advanced Ageing and Sexing Workshop with Peter Pyle, Point Reyes, CA (2016).
- Advanced Bird Bander Workshop, Powdermill Nature Reserve, PA (2016).
- Introductory Bird-banding Course offered by IBP, Hurricane Island, ME (2016).
- Yellow Rails and Rice Festival Banding Workshop, Jennings, LA (2015).

PERMITS

- Federal Bird Banding and Marking Permit (master permit), US Geological Survey Bird Banding Laboratory (2019−Present)
- State Scientific Permit for Research (salvage of wildlife authorized), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (2020−Present)
- Federal Migratory Bird Scientific Collecting Permit, US Fish and Wildlife Service (2020−Present)
- Scientific Activity License (salvage of wildlife authorized), Arizona Game and Fish Department (2024−Present)
- Scientific Collecting Permit (salvage of wildlife authorized), New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (2024−Present)