

WildCAM Charter

December 2019

Mission

Develop a remote camera network to improve knowledge and public engagement in support of effective wildlife management and conservation in British Columbia, Western Canada, and beyond.

Vision

Our vision is of a grassroots network driven by the needs and desires of our users, with an eye toward tackling large-scale challenges and questions too difficult for individual projects to address. We envision a robust community of practice that works as an effective means of creating and sharing knowledge within the scope of the network.

Objectives

1. Develop a community of practice to facilitate large-scale, collaborative collection and analysis of camera data.
2. Review and assemble best practices in remote camera survey methodologies.
3. Develop a coordinated sampling framework to address large-scale management questions and identify areas where further methodological research is needed.
4. Assess existing tools and develop new ones to facilitate effective, standardized data management and sharing.
5. Develop partnerships with diverse stakeholders and engage in public education about wildlife ecology and conservation via camera-trap images.

Membership

Participants are a broad group of individuals and organizations in wildlife conservation and management working to further the study and management of wildlife through the use of camera traps.

The Network includes members from academia; federal, provincial, and municipal biologists and managers; First Nations biologists; researchers from non-governmental organizations; and volunteers.

Network membership comes with the responsibility to:

1. Contribute to the Network community and its objectives by maintaining an up to date profile and project descriptions.

2. Treat all other Network members, volunteers, or funders with respect, and refrain from any behaviour that the advisory committee and/or Secretariat deems harmful to the Network and its objectives.
3. Speak only on behalf of their projects, not the Network as a whole.

Governance

WildCAM is not a legal entity. It is community comprised of network members, an advisory committee, and a Secretariat.

Advisory Committee

The advisory committee consists of experts in wildlife biology and management, wildlife cameras, and developing large-scale wildlife monitoring programs.

The advisory committee is responsible for:

- Providing guidance on the direction and priorities of the Network
- identifying and generating resources for building Network capacity
- identifying and facilitating partnerships with other organizations
- recommending the addition or removal of Network members
- providing guidance and external accountability for delivery of the Network to the Secretariat organizations (through annual surveys or evaluations sent to members)

The advisory committee is appointed and Co-Chaired by the leads for the two WildCAM Secretariat organizations. The Secretariat organizations will review Committee membership every three years with a view to refreshing participation. To the extent possible, the Advisory Committee will be broadly representative of academia; federal, provincial, and municipal biologists and managers; First Nations biologists; and researchers from non-governmental organizations, as well as diverse geographic regions.

The size of the committee will generally be seven and under.

Secretariat

WildCAM is administered by the BC Parks Foundation, an independent charitable foundation registered in Canada, in conjunction with the WildCo lab at UBC.

The Secretariat's role is to:

- Oversee and carry out day-to-day implementation of the Network objectives
- Appoint and co-chair the advisory committee
- Accept and terminate memberships
- Seek and administer funding related to the Network
- Carry out all other tasks as necessary for the positive governance and operation of the Network.

Scope and Duration

The Network is initially focused in BC but may expand to Western Canada or beyond, or partner with similar networks in other regions.

The Network will continue to operate until such time as the Secretariat organizations determine that it is no longer feasible or necessary for it to continue.