

Christopher S. DePerno
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Coordinator and Liaison
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Since 2004, Dr. DePerno has been a researcher, professor, and extension specialist in the College of Natural Resources, Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, and the Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology Program at North Carolina State University. He has dedicated his career to teaching students, developing future wildlife professionals, and advancing research and knowledge in the wildlife profession. Dr. DePerno earned his Ph.D. in Wildlife Management from South Dakota State University, his M.S. in Behavioral Ecology from Purdue University, and his B.S. in Pre-graduate Biology/Chemistry from Central Michigan University. His research interests include population ecology, management, and habitat use and selection of big game species and predators, interactions of predators and prey, and sexual segregation and resource partitioning in ungulates, animal damage, invasive species management, reptile and amphibian habitat requirements, wildlife and zoonotic diseases, and wildlife education. He has chaired or co-chaired 38 graduate student committees, served on an additional 20 graduate student committees, has 159 peer-reviewed manuscripts, 92 peer-edited reports and extension publications, 46 popular press articles, 17 editorships, 374 research presentations (21 invited), 261 extension presentations, 1 book chapter, 1 case study, and has generated nearly \$9 million in grant funding. In 2012, he received the North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society's Chapter Award and was awarded the Natural Resources Scientist of the Year by the North Carolina Wildlife Federation's Governor's Conservation Achievement Award. Additionally, he was recognized as an Outstanding Alumni by South Dakota State University (his Alma Mater) and in 2021, he received The Wildlife Society's Fellow Award as a scientist who has distinguished themselves through exceptional service to the wildlife profession.