Kelly E. Robinson, PhD, MSc, BSc kellyrobinson4788@gmail.com • 262-347-6070

EDUCATION

PhD of Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology. University of Nevada – Reno, 2019 – 2024.
Masters of Ecology. Department of Biology, San Diego State University, 2016 – 2019.
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences. University of Iowa - Iowa City IA, 2011 – 2015.

PROFRESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2024 – Current	*Lecturer*, California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt
2019 – 2024	*Doctorate Graduate Research* (Feldman Lab), University of Nevada-Reno
2016 – 2019.	*Master's Graduate Research* (Clark Lab), San Diego State University
Feb. – May 2016	*Research Assistant/Field Technician* (Lannoo Lab), Indiana State University
May – June 2015	*Independent Researcher* (Bernstein Lab), Iowa Lakeside Lab
Oct. 2015	*Research Assistant* (Hendricks Lab) Department of Biology, University

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Robinson, K.E., Moniz, H.A., Stokes, A.N and Feldman, C.R. 2024. Where does all the poison go? Investigating toxicokinetics of tetrodotoxin (TTX) in garter snakes (*Thamnophis*). *Journal of Chemical Ecology. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10886-024-01517-7*

Robinson, K.E., Ervin, E.L., Teglas, M.B. and Feldman, C.R. 2023. *Thamnophis couchii* (Sierra Gartersnake), *T. hammondii* (Two-striped gartersnake) and *T. sirtalis* (Common gartersnake). *Herpetological Review*, 54(3), 498- 500

Robinson, K.E., Holding, M.L., Whitford, M.D., Saviola, A.J., Yates, J.R. III. And Clark, R.W. 2021. Phenotypic and functional variation in venom and venom resistance of two sympatric rattlesnakes and their prey. *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*. https://doi.org/10.1111/jeb.13907

Lannoo, M.J., Stiles, R.M., Sisson, M.A., Swan, J.W., Terrell, V.C.K. and **Robinson, K.E.** 2017. Patch Dynamics Inform Management Decisions in a Threatened Frog Species. *Copeia,*105(1), 53-63. https://doi.org/10.1643/CH-16-499

PUBLICATIONS IN-PREP

Robinson, K.E., Robichaux, K.J., Mahmud, T., Wallace, I.S., Philbin, C.S., Jeffery, C.S. and Feldman, C.R. *In Prep*. Pick Your Poison: discovery and comparative assessment of secreted compounds by toxic Pacific newt (*Taricha)*.

Robinson, K.E., Moniz, H.A., Moritz, G.L. and Feldman, C.R. *In Prep*. Can You See Me Now? Assessing Cryptic and Aposematic Coloration of Toxic Pacific Newts (Taricha)

PRESENTATIONS

Malewicz, K.B., **Robinson, K.E.**, McGlothlin, J.W., and Feldman, C.R. (2025, June). Have Toxic Newts Found a Way Around the Extreme Resistance in their Snake Predators? Evolution Conference, Athens, GA.

Robinson, K.E. (2025, April). Biochemical Warfare: Exploring Chemically-Mediated Predator- Prey Interactions. Ecoseries Department of Wildlife, Cal Poly Humboldt, Arcata, CA.

Robinson, K.E. (2025, March). Oh Herpy Days: understanding species interactions and their implications. Conservation Unlimited Chapter at Cal Poly Humboldt, Arcata, CA.

Smith, J.M., **Robinson, K.E**. and Feldman, C.R. (2025, February). From Poison to Signal: Quantifying Warning Colors in Garter Snakes. The Western Section of the Wildlife Society, Visalia, CA.

Robinson, K.E., and Johnson, C.A. (2024, May). All things reptile and amphibian. Program on the Porch, Bowers Mansion, New Washoe City, Nevada. *Invited speaker*.

Feldman, C.R., **Robinson, K.E.**, del Carlo, R. E., Moniz, H.A. and Hallas, J.M. (2024, February) Of Genes and Geography: Patterns of Newt and Garter Snake Coevolution in Western North America. The Western Section of the Wildlife Society, Sonoma, CA.

Robinson, K.E., Moniz, H.A., Stokes, A.N. and Feldman, C.R. (2024, January) Investigating toxicokinetics of newt (*Taricha*) tetrodotoxin (TTX) in garter snakes (*Thamnophis*). Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (oral presentation), Seattle, WA. *Awarded Best Student Talk*.

Robinson, K.E., Moniz, H.A., Stokes, A.N. and Feldman, C.R. (2023, June) Investigating toxicokinetics of

newt (*Taricha*) tetrodotoxin (TTX) in garter snakes (*Thamnophis*). Hitchcock Center for Chemical Ecology Symposium (poster presentation), University of Nevada at Lake Tahoe, Incline Village, NV.

Robinson, K.E., and Johnson, C.A. (2023, June). All things reptile and amphibian. Program on the Porch, Bowers Mansion, New Washoe City, Nevada. *Invited speaker*.

Robinson, K.E., Moniz, H.A., Stokes, A.N. and Feldman, C.R. (2022, July) How do garter snakes (*Thamnophis*) overcome one of the most lethal poisons in the world? Investigating tetrodotoxin (TTX) sequestration. Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology (oral presentation), Spokane, WA.

Robinson, K.E. and Clark, R.W. (2021, July) Biochemical Warfare: coevolution of pit viper venom and venom resistance among small mammals. Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology (oral presentation), Phoenix, AZ. *Awarded Best Student Talk.*

Robinson, K.E. and Clark, R.W. (2021, March) Biochemical Warfare: coevolution of pit viper venom and venom resistance among small mammals. Herp Group at Museum of Vertebrate Zoology (oral presentation), UC-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

Robinson, K.E. and Feldman, C.R. (2020, Aug) Are there many routes to resistance? The Identification and Implications of a Novel Adaptation in Tetrodotoxin (TTX) Resistant Snakes (*Thamnophis)*. NSF GUTT Annual Workshop. Online Poster Presentation.

Robinson, K.E. and Clark, R.W. (2019, June) Biochemical Warfare: coevolution of pit viper venom and venom resistance among small mammals. San Diego Zoo Institution for Conservation Research (oral presentation), Escondido, CA

Robinson, K.E. and Clark, R.W. (2018, Mar.) Biochemical Warfare: coevolution of venom and venom resistance among rattlesnakes and mammal prey. Venom Week VI 2018 (oral presentation), Kingsville, TX [published abstract]

Robinson, K.E. and Clark R.W. (2018, Mar.) Biochemical Warfare: coevolution of venom and venom resistance among rattlesnakes and mammal prey. SDSU Research Symposium (oral presentation), San Diego, CA

Robinson, K.E. and Clark, R.W. (2017, Feb.) Venom resistance variation among small mammals. Southwest Herpfest (oral presentation), Riverside, CA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

***Lecturer:* Full Time, Dept. of Wildlife, Cal Poly Humboldt – Arcata, CA 2024 – Current**

- WLDF 300B: Wildlife Ecology and Management Nonmajors (1 summer 5 -week, 22 undergraduates)
  - *Description:* Upper-division course for non-majors, satisfying Science B requirement for non-majors. Course is focused on topics such as the history of wildlife management and conservation in the US, laws associated with management and conservation biology. Course is a 5-week summer course which was offered online and asynchronous.
  - *Responsibilities:* developed and delivered course content, developed and streamlined Canvas page for asynchronous online class, created assignments and facilitated online discussions, generated and graded assessments.
- WLDF 423: Non-Game Management of Herpetofauna (1 semester, 25 undergraduates)
  - *Description:* Upper-division course focused on topics surrounding the management and conservation of wild reptiles and amphibians. Course focuses on animal identification, threat assessments, current conservation practices and providing hands on experience with relevant survey and sampling techniques.
  - *Responsibilities:* created and developed course material including syllabus, lecture and lab materials, planned and executed multiple field trips, invited local guest lecturers, provided museum specimens, generated and graded exams, instructed students through reptile and amphibian surveys and sampling methods.
- WLDF 460: Conservation Biology (2 semesters, ~ 40 undergraduates/semester)
  - *Description:* Upper-division course focused on topics within the field of conservation biology. Students learn the fundamentals including common threats, conservation practices and understand the human dimension of conservation biology.
  - *Responsibilities:* deliver course content through lectures, labs and CANVAS website, instruct students through course and lab assignments, generated and graded exams, planned and executed field trips.
- WLDF 495: Senior Research Project (2 semesters, 6 -15 undergraduates/semester)
  - *Description:* Upper-division course where student created, develop and implement independent

research projects related to the field of conservation and wildlife management. This is a capstone class for graduating seniors.
    - *Responsibilities:* mentor students through independent research from developing questions and methods, to data collection, statistical data analysis and manuscript preparation, guided students through creation and presentation of scientific posters.
- WLDF 210: Introduction to Wildlife Management and Administration (1 semester, 62 undergraduates)
    - *Description:* Lower-division course with lectures (twice/week) and seminars (once/week) whereby we discuss the history of wildlife management and conservation in the US, federal organizations, federal laws associated with management and conservation and conservation biology.
    - *Responsibilities:* develop and deliver course content through lectures, seminar and CANVAS website, take students on local guided hikes to discuss wildlife and conservation, generate and grade assessments.
- WLDF 585: Graduate Student Seminar in Wildlife Management (1 semester, 11 undergraduates)
    - *Description:* Upper-division course for graduate students with weekly discussions where students explored the concept of coevolution and its important in wildlife management.
    - *Responsibilities:* created course framework, guided weekly discussion but we're primarily student-led, graded assignments, provided reading materials (selected by students).
- WLDF 485: Undergraduate Senior Seminar (1 semester, 25 undergraduates)
    - *Description:* Upper-division course with weekly meetings to discuss how students can present themselves as a wildlife biologist to the public, potential employers and colleagues.
    - *Responsibilities:* providing and assessing materials for job or graduate school applications such as cv, resumes, cover letters and personal statements, preparing students for mock job or graduate school interviews, preparing students for public scientific presentations.

Instructor: **Temporary, University of Nevada – Reno, Summer 2022 – 2024**

- Biol 322: Experimental Field Ecology (3 summer semesters)
    - *Description:* Upper division course teaching ecological field methods and sampling techniques, co-instructor and co-creator of course (below responsibilities were shared).
    - *Responsibilities:* created and developed course including syllabus, generated and graded all assignments and activities, provided gear for trips and assignments, planned and executed 3-day field trips and 3 overnight weekend trips (including housing, food and transportation), created and presented lecture material and mentored students through the research and grant writing processes, instructed through various ecological survey and sampling methods.

Teaching Assistant: **Full time, University of Nevada-Reno, 2019 – 2024**

- Biol 432: Herpetology (2 semesters)
    - *Description*: Upper division course with lectures, lab, and field trips to teach about herpetofauna
    - *Responsibilities:* provided live and museum herpetofauna specimens, directed lab activities, graded exams, quizzes and writing assignments, held open labs, procured transportation for field trips, shopped and planned meals for overnight field trip.
- Biol 434: Mammalogy (1 semester)
    - *Description*: Upper division course with lectures, lab, and field trips to teach about mammals
    - *Responsibilities:* designed and presented lectures for lab sections, directed lab activities, generated and graded exams, provided museum specimens and held office hours.
- Biol 223/224 Human Anatomy and Physiology (5 semesters)
    - *Description*: Lower division intensive course involving identification of anatomical terms and dissections
    - *Responsibilities:* designed and presented lectures for lab sections, directed lab activities, graded exams, led students through dissections and held office hours.
- Biol 415 Evolution (1 semester)
    - *Description*: Upper division course focused on the explanation and reasons of biological diversification
    - *Responsibilities:* designed and presented lectures for discussion sections, directed

discussion activities, proctored and graded exams, graded course assignments, held office hours and provided review sessions.

***Teaching Assistant*: Full time, San Diego State University, 2016 – 2019**

- Biol 204: Principles of Organismal Biology (2 semesters)
  - *Description*: Lower division course teaching about diversity of life and organismal biology
  - *Responsibilities:* designed and presented lectures for lab sections, generated and graded quizzes, proctored lecture exams, graded course assignments, held office hours and provided review sessions.
- Biol 100: Introduction to Biology for Non-Majors (4 semesters)
  - *Description*: Lower division course of introductory biology for non-biology majors
  - *Responsibilities:* designed and presented lectures for lab sections, directed lab activities, generated and graded exams, provided materials for course experiments and held office hours.

***Graduate Assistant:* Full time, San Diego State University, 2018 – 2019**

- Biol 204L: Principles of Organismal Biology (2 semesters)
  - *Description*: Lower division course teaching about diversity of life and organismal biology
  - *Responsibilities:* set up and took down lab each week, provided and maintained live animals, collected flora and bacteria samples for class, cleaned and maintained all course supplies (i.e., microscopes, dishes, pipettes, etc.)

GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS

2024	DCPB Best Student Oral Presentation, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, **$150**
2023	Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, University of Nevada-Reno **$500**
2023	Diana Hadley-Lynch Scholarship, University of Nevada-Reno **$1,400**
2023	UNR Graduate Student Access Grant, University of Nevada - Reno **$3,000**
2023	Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Fund, American Museum of Natural History **$1000**
2022	Diana Hadley-Lynch Scholarship, University of Nevada-Reno **$1,200**
2022	Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, University of Nevada-Reno **$500**
2022	UNR Graduate Student Access Grant, University of Nevada - Reno **$3,000**
2022	ASN Student Research Award, American Society of Naturalists, **$2,000**
2021	Stoye Award – Best Student Presenter, American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetology **$300**
2021	Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, University of Nevada-Reno **$500**
2021	Roger Conant Grants in Herpetology, Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles **$500**
2021	Women in Conservation Trading Cards, AAAS IF/THEN Ambassador Program, San Diego, CA
2021	Graduate Student Association Research, Travel & Materials Grant, U. of Nevada - Reno **$2,000**
2021	Hitchcock Center for Chemical Ecology Graduate Fellowship, U. of Nevada - Reno **$10,062**
2020	Student Summer Research Fellowship-NSF EPSCoR **$3,146**
2020	UNR Graduate Student Access Grant, University of Nevada - Reno **$3,000**
2018	Farris Travel Award, San Diego State University **$550**
2018	Grant-in-Aid of Research Award, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology **$1,000**
2017	Harold and June Memorial Scholarship, San Diego State University **$2,500**
2017	Mabel Myers Memorial Scholarship, San Diego State University **$200**
2017	Dean Metter Award, Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles **$1,000**
2017	Golf for Wildlife Scholarship, San Diego Zoo **$500**
2011-15	University of Iowa National Scholars Tuition Award **$20,000**
2014	Parker/Gentry Scholarship in Conservation Biology, Iowa Lakeside Laboratory **$100**
2014	Room and Board Scholarship, Iowa Lakeside Laboratory **$900**
2011-12	University of Iowa Dean's List

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

Ad Hoc Reviewer: **Journal/Institute (# reviews)**

Northeastern Naturalist (1)

Professional services:

2025 – Current, Northern California Pond Turtle Working Group - Research Subcommittee Leader
2023 – 2028 Board of Governors, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists
2020 – 2023 *Ecology, Evolution & Cons. Biology Colloquium Committee*, University of Nevada-Reno
2020 – 2022 Treasurer/*Secretary* UNR Herpetology Club, University of Nevada-Reno
2015 *Lecture Series Liaison* UI Environmental Coalition, University of Iowa
2014 *Co-President* UI Environmental Coalition, University of Iowa
2013 *Treasurer* UI Environmental Coalition, University of Iowa

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND VOLUNTEERING

May 2024 *Volunteer* UNR – Museum of Natural History, University of Nevada Reno, NV
September 2023 *Judge* Nevada 4H Herpetology State Exposition, Fallon, NV
August 2023 *Volunteer* UNR ScienceFIT Day, University of Nevada Reno, NV
April 2023 *Volunteer* UNR STEM Science and Technology Day, University of Nevada Reno, NV
January 2023 *Volunteer* UNR – Museum of Natural History, University of Nevada Reno, NV
November 2022 *Volunteer* Science Day for Big Brothers Big Sisters, University of Nevada Reno, NV
June 2021 *Volunteer* in Their Eyes: Conservation and Comics poster exhibition, San Diego, CA
September 2019 *Volunteer* FIESTA Outreach Event, University of Nevada Reno, NV
August 2019 *Volunteer* EcoLogik Project, San Diego, CA
2018-2019 *Volunteer* Science Delivered, San Diego, CA
June 2018 *Volunteer* EcoLogik Project, San Diego, CA
2017 *MEBSA Volunteer* High-Tech High, Chula Vista, CA
2015 *Volunteer* Department of Natural Resources, Spirit Lake, IA
2013-2015 *Volunteer* UI Environmental Coalition, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
2012-2013 *Volunteer/Fundraiser* Dance Marathon, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

MENTORED STUDENT RESEARCH

Project: Assessing potential aposematic coloration in garter snakes, 2024 - Current

- Technique: spectrometer and photo data collection [2 undergraduates]
- Technique: color data analysis [3 undergraduates]

Project: Coevolution of pit viper venom and venom resistance among small mammal, 2016-19

- Technique: Rattlesnake handling and data collection [12 undergraduates]
- Technique: Small mammal trapping, handling and data collection [17 undergraduates]
- Technique: Bioassays of venom and venom resistance of various venom components [4 undergraduates]

CERTIFICATES

2025 Academic Applications of Artificial Intelligence microcertificate, San Diego State University
2022 Wilderness First Aid Training, American Safety & Health Institute, University of Nevada
2022 Heartsaver CPR/AED Training, American Heart Association, University of Nevada
2018 Teaching Certificate in Evidence-Based Teaching, San Diego State University

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016 *Resident Assistant*, Iowa Lakeside Laboratory
2015 *Seasonal Employee*, Iowa Lakeside Laboratory

SOCIETIES AND MEMBERSHIP

2025 - Present Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
2020 - Present American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists
2021 - 2024 Society for the Study of Evolution
2020 - 2024 American Association for the Advancement of Science
2019 - 2022 University of Nevada-Reno Herpetology Club
2016 – 2023 Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles

2013 – 2015	UI Environmental Coalition, University of Iowa
2011 - 2015	National Society of Collegiate Scholars member

REFERENCES

- Dr. Chris Feldman, Department of Biology, University of Nevada-Reno, ophis@unr.edu
- Dr. Rulon Clark, Department of Biology, San Diego State University, rclark@mail.sdsu.edu
- Dr. Lora Robinson, Department of Biology, University of Nevada-Reno, lorar@unr.edu
- Dr. Alexander van de Linden, Department of Biology, University of Nevada-Reno, avanderlinden@unr.edu
- Dr. Michael Lannoo, Department of Biology, University of Indiana, mlannoo@uipui.edu
- Dr. Neil Bernstein, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Iowa, neil- bernstien@uiowa.edu
- Dr. Thomas Huxford, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, San Diego State University, thuxford@sdsu.edu
- Dr. Olivia Mullins, Founder of Science Delivered, San Diego, CA, omullins@science-delivered.org