



**CENTER FOR  
WILDLIFE STUDIES**



**RESEARCH &  
MANAGEMENT METHODS**

**ONLINE**

**WORKING AND  
PARTNERING WITH  
CONSERVATION CANINES  
– HYBRID COURSES**

**Course Description & Format**

Scent detection dogs are increasingly used in conservation research to improve the frequency or probability of finding biological samples or focal organisms, including rare or cryptic species. We offer a series of three short courses (Course #1-2 online; & Course #3 field) designed to provide an appreciation for this emerging field and the science behind it, while presenting real-world examples, logistics, and considerations underscoring the potential benefits of this approach.

**Course #1: Intro to Working with Conservation Canines**

Ideal for students, researchers, and others new to learning theory, working dogs, and scent detection training. Using an online platform to illustrate key concepts via lectures with video clips and interactive discussions, it provides an overview of scent detection applications, animal training basics, general principles of scent detection training, and dog selection considerations.

**Course #2: Detection Dogs as Partners in Conservation**

For more experienced participants, this Case Study follows four seasons of field work with a target species, while also covering related topics such as building a collaborative partnership, quantitative assessment of training techniques and methods, ethical considerations, and the burgeoning community of conservation dog professionals.

**Course #3: Canine Scent Detection Field Workshop**

Finally, for a small group of advanced students, we will offer an intensive three-day in-person that features foundational search training simulations, discussions of techniques and methods, recreations of ground truthing and early field training steps, and participation in scat detection field work for an ongoing black bear research project in Maine.

**Dates**

Course #1: Feb 27 - Mar 13, 2023

Course #2: Mar 13-27, 2023

Course #3: TBD



**Instructors**

Lindsay Ware & Dr. Cheryl Frederick

**Cost**

Course #1-2: \$500 professional / \$400 student

Course #3: TBD

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