

**Andrew M. Connolly**

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**Education**

|    |   |                                   |              |
|----|---|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| MA | Biology (In Progress)   | Miami University, Oxford, OH, USA | 2024-Present |
| BS | Wildlife and Conservation Biology<br>Spanish & History Minor<br>Ohio Honors Program | Ohio University, Athens, OH, USA  | 2019-2022    |

**Professional Experience**

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| <i>Outreach Coordinator &amp; Educator</i> , Wolf Conservation Center, South Salem, NY, USA   |  | 06/2025-Present  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fosters community relations to advance the conservation of wolves and wildlife coexistence on a local and national scale</li> <li>Designs and delivers accessible programs meeting the needs of communities</li> <li>Evaluates all programs and tracks their impact on community perceptions of wolves</li> <li>Promotes engagement with the Cultivating Canid Coexistence community science program</li> </ul>  |  |                  |
| <i>Zoo Educator</i> , Beardsley Zoo, Bridgeport, CT, USA  |  | 11/2022- 06/2025 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educates guests on the AZA, conservation initiatives including the SSP and SAFE programs, animal life history, and curriculum specific programming</li> <li>Provides daily husbandry for and educates with the animal ambassador collection including mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and avians.</li> <li>Coordinates citizen science programs such as Trout in the Classroom and the largest FrogWatch chapter in the nation</li> </ul>        |  |                  |
| <i>Biological Field Station Assistant</i> , Ohio State University, Stone Laboratory, Put-In Bay, OH, USA  |  | 04/2022-10/2022  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educated students in grades 5 through 12 on topics of interest such as ornithology, herpetology, limnology, ichthyology, and climate science.</li> <li>Promoted climate literacy and engaged the community in conservation action</li> <li>Coordinated island upkeep and safety on Gibraltar Island in collaboration with fellow Biological Field Station Assistants</li> <li>Assisted in OSU summer courses and research at Stone Laboratory</li> </ul> |  |                  |
| <i>Undergraduate Researcher</i> , Ohio University, The Ohio University Conservation Biology Laboratory under Dr. Viorel Popescu, Athens, OH, USA  |  | 12/2019- 04/2022 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluated salamander response to prescribed burns in Wayne National Forest</li> <li>Conducted an occupancy analysis of Anurans in Wayne National Forest in collaboration with WNF Staff</li> <li>Aided in the organization and presentation of sources for the Fundamentals of Conservation Biology 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Textbook, by Dr. VD Popescu, Dr. ML Hunter, and Dr. JP Gibbs, published in March of 2021.</li> </ul>                          |  |                  |
| <i>Laboratory Assistant</i> , Ohio University, Witmer Laboratory under Dr. Larry Witmer, Athens, OH, USA  |  | 1/2020- 3/2020   |

- Dissected and delineated the skeletons of Bobcats, *Lynx rufus*, to aid in the establishment of an academic special collection for research

### Teaching

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|-----------------|---|-------------------------|
| Ohio University | UC 1900 <i>Environmental and Plant Biology Learning Community</i><br>(1 Credit; 15 Students), (1 credit; 15 students) | Fall 2020,<br>Fall 2021 |
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### Service

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| CT American Association of Zookeepers Education Committee Member / Founder | 12/2025-Present |
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- Curates educational content for use in AAZK events focused on conservation, wildlife, and community engagement
- Crafts strategic plan for annual education campaigns

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| Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Advancing Education Working Group Chair / Founder | 08/2025- Present |
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- Promotes internal and external education in relation to the field of herpetology
- Produces educational content to support herpetology campaigns
- Oversees the day-to-day operations of the working group

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| Skype a Scientist | 2024- Present |
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- Provides free science education programs to groups around the world such as schools, special interest groups, and more.
- Promotes career exploration and stem pathways

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|--|----------------|
| Ronald McDonald House of Connecticut, New Haven, CT, USA | 1/2023-Present |
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- Volunteers once a week at the house where I staff the front desk.
- Greets families of children seeking medical attention at local hospitals, assists in intake and check out procedures, and secures confidential information

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| BobcaThon at Ohio University, Athens, OH, USA | 8/2019-03/2022 |
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- Supported the growth of BobcaThon and fostered community connections to provide aid to the Ronald McDonald House of Central Ohio. • Served in various leadership capacities including Vice President of Internal Affairs, • Educated the community on the impact of the world's largest Ronald McDonald House, and coordinated volunteer events to support the House. • Promoted crowd-funding campaign and organized service events to support the mission of the House

### Honors & Awards

|   |                                   |         |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Education Top Honors — Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo Trout in Classroom | Association of Zoos and Aquariums | 09/2025 |
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| Proposed and had the name "peppered cockroach" accepted by the Entomological Society of America as the Official Common Name of <i>Archimandrita tessellata</i> | Entomological Society of America | 6/2023 |
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| Ohio University Student Expo 1 <sup>st</sup> Place<br>Community Engaged Research | Ohio University Center for<br>Community and Campus<br>Engagement & Ohio University<br>Research Division            | 4/2022 |
| Outstanding Senior Leader Award  | Ohio University  | 4/2022 |
| Arnold Allyship Award  | Ohio University  | 4/2022 |
| Silver President's Volunteer Service Award                                       | Corporation for National and<br>Community Service; President of<br>the United States; Point of Light<br>Foundation | 2019   |

### ***Professional Affiliations***

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|---|-----------------|
| American Association of Zookeepers- Affiliate   | 3/2024- Present |
| Association of Zoos and Aquariums- Professional Affiliate   | 7/2024- Present |
| Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation- Member<br>Including NEPARC, MWPARC, OHPARC Chapters | 1/2022- Present |
| Sigma Xi- Associate Member  | 8/2020-Present  |

### ***Publications***

Connolly, A., and Popescu, V.D. (2024) Anuran Community Occupancy Dynamics in Wayne National Forest in Southeast, Ohio, USA. *Herpetological Conservation and Biology*, 19(1), 48-62.  
[https://www.herpconbio.org/Volume\\_19/Issue\\_1/Connolly\\_Popescu\\_2024.pdf](https://www.herpconbio.org/Volume_19/Issue_1/Connolly_Popescu_2024.pdf) Connolly, A. (2022)

Anuran Community Occupancy Dynamics in Wayne National Forest in Southeast Ohio.  
 [Undergraduate thesis, Ohio University] OhioLINK Electronic Theses and Dissertations Center,  
[http://rave.ohiolink.edu/etdc/view?acc\\_num=ouashonors1651183075702549](http://rave.ohiolink.edu/etdc/view?acc_num=ouashonors1651183075702549) ***Professional***

### ***Presentations (\*Denotes Poster)***

Connolly, Andrew. *Fostering Positive Herpetofauna Conservation Behaviors through Applied Conservation Psychology: The Importance of Education in Non-Charismatic Reptile and Amphibian Conservation*, Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation 2025 Conference, Dingmans Ferry, PA, 12, Augst, 2025.

\*Connolly, Andrew, Cervero, Bridget, Sirch, Jim, Farrell, Jen. *FrogWatch USA Promotes Community Engagement in Science and Nature while Supporting Conservation Research*. Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation 2023 Conference. Middletown, CT, 24, July, 2023.

Connolly, Andrew. *Anuran Community Occupancy Dynamics in Wayne National Forest in Southeast Ohio*. Departmental of Biological Sciences Honors Thesis Presentation, Athens, OH, 25, April, 2022.

\*Connolly, Andrew, Schultes, Katrina, Popescu, Viorel. *Anuran Community Occupancy Dynamics in Wayne National Forest*. Ohio University Student Expo, Athens, OH, 7, April 2022.

\*Connolly, Andrew, Schultes, Katrina, Popescu, Viorel. *Anuran Community Occupancy in Wayne National Forest*. Ohio Natural History Conference, Columbus, Ohio, 26, February, 2022.

\*Connolly, Andrew, Schultes, Katrina, Popescu, Viorel. *Anuran Community Occupancy in Wayne National Forest*. 62<sup>nd</sup> Ohio Wildlife Management Conference, Columbus, Ohio, 21, January, 2022.

\*Connolly, Andrew, Popescu, Viorel. *Wayne's World: Frog and Toad Call Survey's in Southeast Ohio's Wayne National Forest*. Ohio University Student Expo, Athens, OH, Virtual Event, 8, April, 2021.

### **Other Trainings & Certifications**

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| <i>FrogWatch USA Chapter Coordinator</i>  | Association of Zoos and Aquariums | 1/18/2023       |
| <i>Heartsaver First Aid CPR &amp; AED</i> | American Heart Association        | Expires 05/2026 |
| <i>Ohio Boating License</i>               | Boat USA                          | 5/2022          |