

Brandon Navratil

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Education:

Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Fisheries and Wildlife Science, Dual Concentrations,
North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina 27607; December 2009.
Minor in Environmental Sciences, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North
Carolina 27607; December 2009.

Awards, Scholarships, and Certifications:

2019	CyberTracker Conservation: Level 2 Track and Sign
2019	NOLS Wilderness First Aid
2019	RAID Freediver
2016	PADI Advanced Open Water Diver
2016	National Parks and Wildlife Service Award- Australia
2014	Star Award- U.S. Department of Interior and National Park Service
2013	First Aid and CPR Certified
2012	NAI Certified Interpreter
2009	NCSU Scholars Program Completion
2009	ESRI ArcGIS certifications: completion of Learning ArcGIS Desktop and Learning ArcGIS Spatial Analyst
2008	Xi Sigma Pi Forestry Honor Society
2006	Tacy Anna Smith Scholarship

Media Skills:

- Camera Operation
- Camera Assisting
- Aerial Coordinator
- Long Lens Use
- Motion-Sensor Camera Use
- Broadcast Program Work
- Agriculture, Corporate, & Property
films
- Sound Recording
- Lighting
- Interviewing
- Script and Shot-list Writing
- Pitching and Development
- Adobe Premiere Editing
- Lightroom Editing
- Gimbal use
- Drone Flying

Film Credits:

National Geographic Yellowstone Live 2- June 2019. Camera Operator and Aerial Coordinator. Plimsoll Productions, UK.

National Geographic Yellowstone Live- July to August 2018. Camera Operator and consultant. Plimsoll Productions, UK.

Connecting to Country- September to October 2016. Sound recording, second camera, editing, scripting. For Sascha Estens at Rabbit Hop Films and also Whyldfish, Australia.

IT Newcom- September to October 2016. Editing. Sascha Estens at Rabbit Hop Films.

Nepal- In My Life- September 2016. Editing. Sascha Estens at Rabbit Hop Films.

Kenny's Creek- September 2016. Drone flying, second camera, interviewing, editing. Sascha Estens at Rabbit Hop Films.

Cold Fish- September 2016. Editor, second camera, interviewing, scripting and shot development. Sascha Estens at Rabbit Hop Films.

Twin Hills- September 2016. Drone flying, editing, second camera, interviewing, shot development. Sascha Estens at Rabbit Hop Films.

Brooklyn- September 2016. Editing. Sascha Estens at Rabbit Hop Films.

Skills:

- Organization and Time Management
- Public Relations
- Professional Interpretation and Guiding/ Communication
- Training and Teaching
- Business and Financing
- Working in Group and/or Isolated Settings
- Management
- Hiking in Strenuous Conditions
- Data Collection and Entry
- Computer Proficiency
- Professional Driving
- GPS Use
- Plant and Animal Identification
- ArcGIS Program
- Navigation, GPS Cluster Points
- Taxonomic Key Use
- Radio Telemetry
- Backcountry Camping
- Tracking
- Orienteering and Map Reading
- Photogrammetric Spatial Referencing
- Spanish Speaking

Positions and Research Experience:

- Sept-
Oct 2019 **Camera Assistant; National Geographic's America, Grand Teton N.P.** I assisted various cameraman with tasks focusing on the moose and elk rutting season. Tasks included helping set up/operate Red camera equipment, utilizing local and wildlife behavior knowledge to locate animals, assist varyingly during filming behavior, sitting in a blind, and hiking with equipment. Under the direction of Jeff Hogan and Jake Davis.
- June 2019- **Camera Operator; National Geographic's Yellowstone Live 2.** I served as a field camera operator and live operator for the series. My duties ranged from focusing on bears, wolves, and other wildlife such as otters, to operating the live Old Faithful camera. Field tasks included hiking and scouting for wolf dens, following various animal characters, and capturing animal springtime stories. I operated both alone and as part of a team in the field. My role also included consulting for other live crews, coordinating locations, and sharing local expertise. Under the direction of James Smith, Executive Producer at Plimsoll Productions.
- June 2019- **Helicopter Assistant/Aerial Coordinator; National Geographic Yellowstone Live 2.** I assisted in the operations of 5 flights over Yellowstone with the focus of finding and filming wildlife. This included riding in the helicopter to discover wildlife, directing flight patterns for sightings, coordinating flight logistics, flight plans, scouting locations prior to flights, orienting flights after sightings, analyzing behavior and assisting in filming wildlife. We were successful in our ultimate focus of filming wolves and their pups around a den site. Under the direction of Kate Laurie, Producer at Plimsoll Productions.
- July-August 2018 **Camera Operator/Consultant; National Geographic Yellowstone Live, G.Y.E., U.S.** As an operator I focused on bear families, wolves, coyotes, and eagles around the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. I had an emphasis on tracking and repeatedly filming individuals as characters for the Live show. I was mainly operating alone throughout filming but also worked in team situations during consulting. The consulting work included tracking specific characters for crews, serving as a wildlife expert for the program, and scouting for wolves from the helicopter for the Cineflex. Under the direction of Plimsoll Productions, UK.

- April -
October 2018 **Naturalist/ Guide; The Wild Side LLC, Yellowstone N.P., U.S.** Guiding various programs from multi-day to single day tours around Yellowstone. Programs focus on finding, viewing wildlife, interpretation, and ecological education of Yellowstone. Other programs can focus on photography, geology, dendrology, tracking, history, geography, and plant biology. I work in group situations and also under no supervision. Food preparation and presentation is included for each tour. Under the direction of Nathan Varley, PhD and Linda Thurston, MS, Co-Owners of Wild Side, Gardiner, MT.
- May 2018- **Camera Operator; Wild Lens Retreat, Boise, ID.** I was in charge of filming and photographing a company retreat and strategic planning weekend. This included gaining group, personal, and article footage of the events. I also participated in the discussions and progress of the non-profit conservation media organization. Under the direction of Matthew Podolsky, Founder, Wild Lens.
- October 2017- **Camera Operator; Charlie Hamilton James, Jackson, WY.** We filmed a short video focusing on his camera trap setups in the local Wyoming habitat. The shoot involved taking down a trap, checking multiple others, adjusting settings, scouting a new site, and setting up a new trap while filming the processes. Under the direction of Charlie James.
- September 2017- **Volunteer; Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, Jackson, WY.** I volunteered for the duration of the festival as a driver for both delegates and volunteers. This included daily shuttles and longer trips to special events in the evenings. Vehicles ranged from minivans to 15-passenger vans. Under the direction of Kirstie Montgomery, Volunteer Coordinator, JHWFF.
- May 2017-
August 2017 **Writer/Contributor; Wild Lens, Inc.** Writing reviews, articles, and social media outputs for a conservation non-profit organization. Materials are related to conservation, natural, and science focused topics. Wild Lens is a non-profit media and video production organization with goals of generating material to educate and address wildlife conservation issues. Under the direction of Stacey Hollis, Wilds Lens, Inc.

- April 2017- **Intern/Writer/Volunteer; International Wildlife Film Festival, Missoula, Montana.** I wrote a synopsis for each of the 80 films entered. My volunteer services ranged from a driver, special events assistant, education program assistant, to logistical tasks such as office help, ticket sales, merchandise sales, concessions, awards ceremony setup, and pass distribution. I gained valuable experience in the aspects of running a film festival. Under the direction of Jeri Rafter, IWFF Producer, Missoula, MT.
- August 2016- **Apprentice; Rabbit Hop Films, Australia.** I have gained experience with many aspects of the film industry from script writing, interviewing, camera work, drone usage, to editing, lighting, sound, distribution and others. The films have focused on topics ranging from ecological issues, corporate videos, to agriculture and properties. My work experience includes starting concepts to final production using each piece of equipment throughout the process. Under the direction of Sascha Estens, Owner of Rabbit Hop Films, Moree, NSW.
- October 2016
- March 2016- **Photographer/ Research Assistant; Simpson Desert Ecology Research Group, Ethabuka Reserve, Queensland, Australia.** I assisted in 2 PhD projects and a multitude of long-term studies. One PhD project focused on Military Dragon behavior, predator habitat selection, and distribution. It involved noosing dragons, placing radio transmitters on them, tracking, and constructing field study enclosures. The other PhD project looked at GUD surveying for small mammals with native seeds and predator presence. One of the long-term studies utilized 504 pitfall traps to catch mammals, herpetofauna, and invertebrates. Processing of the animals included species identification, processing, DNA sampling, and release. Other long-term studies were vegetation surveys, predator exclusion practices, GUDs, nighttime spotlighting, and scat collection. Also, 4WD, manual, and sand dune driving were essential parts of getting around. Under the direction of Chris Dickman, Professor at Sydney University and DERG Unit Leader, NSW.
- April 2016
- February 2016- **Camera Trap Operator; WildCount Native Fauna Survey, Kosciuszko National Park, NSW, Australia.** For a period of 5 days I trekked around the backcountry of Kosciusko setting up camera traps. Each of the 6 remote locations utilized 4 cameras in a 500m by 500m grid with the aim to capture present native fauna and estimate populations over a 2-week survey period. I had extensive use with GPS, navigation, backcountry hiking, route finding,

surveying, map reading, and 4wd off-road. Under the direction of Lachlan Wilmott, Threatened Species Officer, Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW.

- February 2016- **Guide/ Outdoor Educator; Nature Engagement Tours, NSW, Australia.** I co-guided a group of 13 people on trip to Deua National Park. The trip involved caving, hiking, camping, and river exploration. The trip focused on connecting participants with the outdoors, camping, ecological principles, and land management. My duties consisted of educating and instructing camping ethics, wildlife behavior, ecosystem relationships, fire construction, geology, natural history, and Leave No Trace principles. I also assisted in trip planning, food preparation, navigation, and any participant inquiries. Under the direction of Paul Dickson, Owner, Shellharbour, NSW.
- December 2015- **Volunteer; Koala Capture, Southern Highlands, NSW, Australia.**
January 2016 I assisted in koala capture, collar and health assessment, then release. I have assisted in 6 captures. We used radio telemetry to track the location. The main focus was determining stress or injury from wearing the collar. In several cases we removed problem collars and applied antiseptic cream. Techniques utilized were tree climbing, flagging, acoustic calling, and bagging. We then took the weight and other medical data as needed. Under the direction of George Madani, Wildlife Ecologist, Australia.
- December 2015- **Volunteer; Koala Monitoring and Tracking in the Southern**
February 2016 **Highlands, NSW, Australia.** I used radio telemetry and camera traps to monitor collared koalas. We tracked up to 20 individuals with both a GPS and VHF collar. The study focused on assessment of the koala's health, presence of Chlamydia, location, residing tree species, surrounding vegetation, scat collection, nighttime movements, forest floor and canopy cover, behavior, along with physical effects of wearing a GPS and VHF collar. This took place throughout multiple forests in the Illawarra region of NSW. Under the direction of Lachlan Wilmott, Threatened Species Officer, Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW.
- May 2014- **Youth Conservation Program Leader; National Park Service,**
August 2014 **Grand Teton N.P., WY, U.S.** The YCP focuses on leading and educating 22 youth members for 10 weeks through a wide range of ideals, fundamentals, topics, and activities all relating to and directly

involved with the outdoors. These include but are not limited to Leave No Trace, search and rescue, ecology, biology, history, geology, botany, dendrology, national park principles, historic preservation, trail construction, maintenance, and environmental stewardship. As a leader daily tasks range from education in the field, organization, project supervising, to leading hikes up to 13 miles a day for trail maintenance. Under the direction of The Grand Teton Park Foundation and Stacy Myers, Trail Crew Foreman, NPS, Moose, WY.

May 2013-
October 2013

Naturalist/ Guide; The Wild Side LLC, Yellowstone N.P., U.S.
Guiding various programs ranging from day wildlife tours to group multi-day backpacking trips in Yellowstone. The multi-day trips included carrying up to 80 pounds, assisting guests, education, preparing meals and setting up backcountry camp. Programs focused on finding, viewing wildlife, interpretation, and ecological education of Yellowstone. Other topics covered were geology, dendrology, tracking, history, geography, and plant biology. Worked in group situations and also under no supervision. Food preparation and presentation was included for each tour. Under the direction of Nathan Varley, PhD and Linda Thurston, MS, Gardiner, MT.

May 2012-
September 2012

Wildlife Guide/ Interpreter; Xanterra at Yellowstone N.P., U.S.
NAI certified interpretive guide. Driving an historic 1920s bus with up to 13 passengers. Tours focused on bringing guests to the best wildlife viewing areas, in the morning and evening, in Yellowstone N.P. During the tour I interpreted the park's history, geography, geology, flora, and fauna. Topics ranged from early history up to current events and ecological issues. I served as a professional guide and interpreter of Yellowstone to all visitors, being a representative of the park to the public. Food preparation was conducted for morning tours. Under the direction of Leslie Quinn, Interpretive Specialist and Instructor, Xanterra.

May 2009-
August 2009

Research Technician; USGS Puerto Rico Freshwater Fisheries Research Assistant, Puerto Rico, U.S.
Conducted research on several different projects concerning distribution, impediments, population, and reproductive ecology of PR stream fishes. Extensive use with backpack electro-shock fishing, Pit tagging, dissecting, and recording data. Worked in teams ranging from 2 to 10 persons. The main focus was on the reproductive ecology and migration of native freshwater species. Apart of the US Geological Survey; under the direction of Will Smith, PhD student at NC State, and Dr. Tom

Kwak, Leader of the North Carolina Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC.

Professional Affiliations Past and Present:

Wild Lens Inc. (2017-Present)

Natural History Network UK Member (2016- Present)

National WolfWatcher Coalition- Advisor (2012- Present)

National Association of Interpretation (2012- 2015)

American Association of Zoo Keepers (2009- 2015)

Leopold Wildlife Club, North Carolina State University Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society (2007- 2009)

North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society (2007- 2015)

Zoology Club- President, North Carolina State University (2006- 2009)

Herpetology Club- President, North Carolina State University (2006- 2009)

Tarheel Trailblazers (2005-2007)

References:

Available upon request