

## **NESS Workshop: Human-wildlife conflicts and the use of natural resources**

### **Workshop chairs:**

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Human-wildlife conflicts (HWC) occur when wildlife intersects and clashes with human activities causing serious problems to many societies worldwide. How these conflicts are perceived, handled or ignored - and thus preserved - depends on the severity of the problem, the availability of technological way-outs and the level of influence for reaction of affected stakeholders and other interested groups within management and political spheres. All these issues require holistic research from a range of academic disciplines from natural scientists to understand wildlife habits and ecology to engineers, economists and environmental social scientists, to figure out and gather the best evidence to solve or alleviate HWC.

The HWC social sciences have over decades gathered a vast amount of (interdisciplinary) knowledge on various aspects of HWC management, stemming primarily from the quantification of HWC impacts but increasingly extending beyond to wider governance issues. HWC research needs not just to provide input to practical alternatives e.g. through economic recompensing programs or technological measures but is increasingly required to supply knowledge of broader issues of for example governing science-policy, stakeholder's interactions and trends in society.

This session invites contributions to the topic of how to better govern "human-nature interactions" especially in the context of natural-resource-based livelihoods and activities such as fisheries, hunting, agriculture, forestry and reindeer herding. Mitigating wildlife-related conflicts in these contexts are often challenging as they may deal with strongly divergent cultures, values, interests and knowledge systems, and require harmonization of diverse sector policies. We invite contributions both from theoretical/conceptual as well as from empirical perspectives. We look forward to interesting discussions of papers from a wide spectrum of social sciences with local, regional as well as national and global perspectives.

We invite contributions including, but not limited, to the following themes:

- Historical accounts, policy analysis, trends, societal transformations and lessons learned around HWC in the context of natural resource use
- HWC social science research approaches for analyze, understand and alleviate/solve HWC
- Analyzes of the social, cultural and welfare impacts of the HWC on nature-based activities like fisheries, hunting, agriculture, forestry and reindeer herding
- The roles of participatory arrangements, e.g. co-management and co-production of knowledge, and other types of HWC governance experiences
- Implementations and impacts of international agreements and national and EU legislation in HWC
- Varieties of perspectives, discourses and values involved in HWC
- Global developments impacting HWC management and governance

The NESS workshops follow a standing session format (similar to ECPR), which allows for substantive discussions on research in progress. The conference invites scholars from multiple disciplinary backgrounds in environmental social science. The overall objective of the workshop is to facilitate and encourage participation, equality and collaboration between younger and more established scholars. Each paper is expected to relate to the theme of the workshop, and the participant submits and presents a paper (or work in progress) for the discussion. Workshop participants will be asked to comment on at least one other paper in the respective workshop and participate in the general discussion of the other papers presented. Participants should only choose and attend one workshop for the duration of the conference. The ambition with this format is that the workshops allow for in-depth and coherent discussions of the respective themes and provide opportunity for potential joint publications or other continuing collaborations between the participants.