

# ERIN GERRISH WESSLING

## CONTACT

Address: 11 Divinity Ave, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 02138  
Telephone: +1 (617) 495 8323  
Email: ewessling[at] fas.harvard.edu  
Website: erinwessling.com  
Citizenship: United States of America  
Languages: English (native), French (some fluency), German (basic)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Broadly trained primate behavioral ecologist interested in the intersections of ecology, biogeography, physiology, and (human) evolution. Expertise in endocrinology, stable isotopes, behavioral observation, and ecological and survey methods. Experienced practitioner and advocate for the integration and application of research into conservation policy and action.

## APPOINTMENTS

2020 – Present Regional Coordinator, Implementation of the IUCN Western Chimpanzee Regional Action Plan  
2019 – Present Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Human Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA  
2019 – 2020 Guest Researcher, Former Department of Primatology, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig Germany  
2018 – 2020 Consultant to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) for the completion of the *Western Chimpanzee (Pan troglodytes verus) Conservation Action Plan 2020–2030*.  
2018 – 2019 Post-Doctoral Researcher, Department of Primatology, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig Germany  
2015 – 2019 Guest Researcher, German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv), Leipzig, Germany

## EDUCATION

2011 – 2018 **Ph.D. in Biology**, International Max Planck Research School, University of Leipzig and the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany  
Thesis: Challenging the notion of chimpanzees as a strictly forest-adapted species: biomarker variation of chimpanzees on the edge  
Supervisor: Hjalmar Kühl  
2010 – 2011 **Graduate Certificate in GIS**, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Multidisciplinary Graduate Program, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa  
2009 – 2011 **M.A. in Anthropology**, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa  
Thesis: Rank-dependent effects on travel and ranging patterns of savanna-dwelling chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) at Fongoli, Senegal.  
Advisor: Jill Pruetz  
2005 – 2009 **B.Sc. in Animal Ecology** (Wildlife Option; Anthropology Minor), *Magna Cum Laude, Honors*, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

In press A.K. Kalan, L. Kulik, M. Arandjelovic, C. Boesch, F. Haas, P. Dieguez, C.D. Barratt, E.E. Abwe, A. Agbor, S. Angedakin, F. Aubert, E. Ayuk Ayimisin, E. Bailey, M. Bessone, G. Brazzola, V. Ebua

- Buh, R. Chancellor, H. Cohen, C. Coupland, B. Curran, E. Danquah, T. Deschner, D. Dowd, M. Eno-Nku, J.M. Fay, A. Goedmakers, A. Granjon, J. Head, D. Hedwig, V. Hermans, K.J. Jeffery, S. Jones, J. Junker, P. Kadam, M. Kambi, I. Kienast, D. Kujirakwinja, K.E. Langergraber, J. Lapuente, B. Larson, K.C. Lee, V. Leinert, M. Llana, S. Marrocoli, A.C. Meier, B. Morgan, D. Morgan, E. Neil, S. Nicholl, E. Normand, L.J. Ormsby, L. Pacheco, A. Piel, J. Preece, M. Robbins, A. Rundus, C. Sanz, V. Sommer, F. Stewart, N. Tagg, C. Tennie, V. Vergnes, A. Welsh, **E.G. Wessling**, J. Willie, R.M. Wittig, Y. Ginath Yuh, K. Zuberbühler, H.S. Kühl. Environmental variability supports chimpanzee behavioural diversity. Resubmitted to *Nature Communications*.
- 2020 C. Boesch, A.K. Kalan, R. Mundry, M. Arandjelovic, S. Pika, P. Dieguez, E. Ayuk Ayimisin, A. Barciela, C. Coupland, V.E. Egbe, M. Eno-Nku, J.M. Fay, D. Fine, R.A. Hernandez-Aguilar, V. Hermans, P. Kadam, M. Kambi, M. Llana, G. Maretti, D. Morgan, M. Murai, E. Neil, S. Nicholl, L.J. Ormsby, R. Orume, L. Pacheco, A. Piel, C. Sanz, L. Sciaky, F.A. Stewart, N. Tagg, **E.G. Wessling**, J. Willie, H.S. Kühl. Chimpanzee ethnography reveals unexpected cultural diversity. *Nature Human Behaviour*.
- 2019 H.S. Kühl, C. Boesch, L. Kulik, F. Haas, M. Arandjelovic, P. Dieguez, G. Bocksberger, R. McElreath, M.B. McElreath, A. Agbor, S. Angedakin, E.A. Ayimisin, E. Bailey, D. Barubiyo, M. Bessone, G. Brazzola, R. Chancellor, H. Cohen, C. Coupland, E. Danquah, T. Deschner, O. Diotoh, D. Dowd, A. Dunn, V.E. Egbe, H. Eshuis, R. Fernandez, Y. Ginath, A. Goedmakers, A.C. Granjon, J. Head, D. Hedwig, V. Hermans, I. Imong, K.J. Jeffery, S. Jones, J. Junker, P. Kadam, M. Kambere, M. Kambi, I. Kienast, D. Kujirakwinja, K. Langergraber, J. Lapuente, B. Larson, K. Lee, V. Leinert, M. Llana, G. Maretti, S. Marrocoli, T.J. Mbi, A.C. Meier, B. Morgan, D. Morgan, F. Mulindahabi, M. Murai, E. Neil, P. Niyigaba, L.J. Ormsby, L. Pacheco, A. Piel, J. Preece, S. Regnaut, A. Rundus, C. Sanz, J. van Schijndel, V. Sommer, F. Stewart, N. Tagg, E. Vendras, V. Vergnes, A. Welsh, **E.G. Wessling**, J. Willie, R.M. Wittig, K. Yurkiw, K. Zuberbuehler, AK. Kalan. Inclusive chimpanzee conservation – Response. *Science* 364 (6445), 1040-1041.
- 2019 S. Murthy, K. O’Brien, M. Jarvis, A. Agbor, S. Angedakin, M. Arandjelovic, F. Aubert, E.A. Ayimisin, E. Bailey, C. Boesch, G. Brazzola, K. Corogenes, L. D’Auvergne, T. Desarmieux, O. Diotoh, A. Dunn, H. Eshuis, B. Fruth, T. Gillespie, Y. Ginath, M. Grayj, I. Herbinger, G. Hohmann, I. Imong, K.J. Jeffery, S. Jones, L. Kehoe, D. Kujirakwinja, H. Kühl, K. Langergraber, K. Lee, F. Madinda, N. Maldonado, E.N. Manasseh, G. Maretti, V. Mihindou, G. Mitambag, R. Nishulii, L.J. Ormsby, K.J. Petzelkova, A.J. Plumptre, S. Regnaut, M. Robbins, V. Sommer, M. Ter Heegde, A. Tickle, A. Todd, **E.G. Wessling**, K. Zuberbuehler, F.H. Leendertz, B. Ehlers, S. Calvignac-Spencer. A complete landscape of cytomegalovirus distribution and evolution in hominines. *Virus Evolution*, 5(2), vez015.
- 2019 S. Heinicke, R. Mundry, C. Boesch, B. Amarasekaran, A. Barrie, T. Brncic, D. Brugière, G. Campbell, J. Carvalho, E. Danquah, D. Dowd, H. Eshuis, M. Fleury-Brugière, J. Gamys, J. Ganas, S. Gatti, L. Ginn, A. Goedmakers, N. Granier, I. Herbinger, A. Hillers, S. Jones, J. Junker, C.Y. Kouakou, V. Lapeyre, V. Leinert, S. Marrocoli, M. Molokwu-Odozi, P.K. N’Goran, E. Normand, L. Pacheco, S. Regnaut, T. Sop, E. Ton, J. van Schijndel, E. Vendras, V. Vergnes, M. Voigt, A. Welsh, **E.G. Wessling**, E.A. Williamson, H.S. Kühl. Advancing conservation planning for western chimpanzees using IUCN SSC APES—the case of a taxon-specific database. *Environmental Research Letters* 14(6), 064001.
- 2019 H.S. Kühl, C. Boesch, L. Kulik, F. Haas, M. Arandjelovic, P. Dieguez, G. Bocksberger, R. McElreath, M.B. McElreath, A. Agbor, S. Angedakin, E.A. Ayimisin, E. Bailey, D. Barubiyo, M. Bessone, G. Brazzola, R. Chancellor, H. Cohen, C. Coupland, E. Danquah, T. Deschner, O. Diotoh, D. Dowd, A. Dunn, V.E. Egbe, H. Eshuis, R. Fernandez, Y. Ginath, A. Goedmakers, A.C. Granjon, J. Head, D. Hedwig, V. Hermans, I. Imong, K.J. Jeffery, S. Jones, J. Junker, P. Kadam, M. Kambere, M. Kambi, I. Kienast, D. Kujirakwinja, K. Langergraber, J. Lapuente, B. Larson, K. Lee, V. Leinert, M. Llana, G. Maretti, S. Marrocoli, T.J. Mbi, A.C. Meier, B. Morgan, D. Morgan, F. Mulindahabi, M. Murai, E. Neil, P. Niyigaba, L. J. Ormsby, L. Pacheco, A. Piel, J. Preece, S. Regnaut, A. Rundus, C. Sanz, J. van Schijndel, V. Sommer, F. Stewart, N. Tagg, E. Vendras, V. Vergnes, A. Welsh, **E.G. Wessling**, J. Willie, R.M. Wittig, K. Yurkiw, K. Zuberbuehler, A.K. Kalan. Human disturbance erodes chimpanzee behavioral diversity. *Science* 363 (6434), 1453-1455.

- 2019 **Wessling, E.G.**, Oelze, V., Eshuis, H., Pruett, J.D., H.S. Köhl. Stable isotope variation in savanna chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) indicate uniformity in responses to nutritional challenges at the limits of the range. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 168: 665-675.
- 2019 S. Heinicke, R. Mundry, C. Boesch, B. Amarasekaran, A. Barrie, T. Brncic, D. Brugière, G. Campbell, J. Carvalho, E. Danquah, D. Dowd, H. Eshuis, M. Fleury-Brugière, J. Gamys, J. Ganas, S. Gatti, L. Ginn, A. Goedmakers, N. Granier, I. Herbinger, A. Hillers, S. Jones, J. Junker, C.Y. Kouakou, V. Lapeyre, V. Leinert, S. Marrocoli, M. Molokwu-Odozi, P.K. N'Goran, E. Normand, L. Pacheco, S. Regnaut, T. Sop, E. Ton, J. van Schijndel, E. Vendras, V. Vergnes, A. Welsh, **E.G. Wessling**, H.S. Köhl. Characteristics of positive deviants in western chimpanzee populations. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* 7 (16): 1-14.
- 2018 N. Tagg, M. McCarthy, P. Dieguez, G. Bocksberger, J. Willie, R. Mundry, F. Stewart, M. Arandjelovic, J. Widness, A. Landsmann, A. Agbor, S. Angedakin, A.E. Ayimisin, M. Bessone, G. Brazzola, K. Corogenes, M. ter Heegde, T. Deschner, E. Dilambaka, M. Eno-Nku, H. Eshuis, A. Goedmakers, A. Granjon, J. Head, V. Hermans, S. Jones, P. Kadam, M. Kambi, K. Langergraber, V. Lapeyre, J. Lapuente, K. Lee, V. Leinert, G. Maretti, S. Marrocoli, A. Meier, S. Nicholl, E. Normand, L.J. Ormsby, A. Piel, O. Robinson, V. Sommer, A. Tickle, E. Ton, J. van Schijndel, H. Vanleeuwe, V. Vergnes, **E. G. Wessling**, R.M. Wittig, K. Zuberbuehler, H. Köhl, C. Boesch. Nocturnal activity in wild chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*): Evidence for flexible sleeping patterns and insights into human evolution. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 166 (3): 510 – 529.
- 2018 **Wessling, E. G.**, Deschner, T., Mundry, R., Pruett, J. D., Wittig, R. M., & Köhl, H. S. Seasonal variation in physiology challenges the notion of chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) as a forest-adapted species. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 6, 60.
- 2018 **Wessling, E. G.**, Köhl, H. S., Mundry, R., Deschner, T., & Pruett, J. D. The costs of living at the edge: Seasonal stress in wild savanna-dwelling chimpanzees. *Journal of Human Evolution* 121: 1 - 11.
- 2018 Ndiaye, P., Lindshield, S., Badji, L., **Wessling, E.**, Pacheco, L., Boyer-Ontl, K., & Pruett, J. Complete survey of chimpanzees outside of the protected areas in Senegal: Filling gaps in our knowledge in anticipation of corporate development. *Journal of African Wildlife* 48 (1), 013007.
- 2017 Köhl, H.S., Sop, T., Williamson, E.A., Mundry, R., Brugière, D., Campbell, G., Cohen, H., Danquah, E., Ginn, L., Herbinger, I., Jones, S., Junker, J., Kormos, R., Kouakou, C.Y., N'Goran, P.K., Normand, E., Shutt-Phillips, K., Tickle, A., Vendras, E., Welsh, A., **Wessling, E.G.**, & Boesch, C. The critically endangered western chimpanzee declines by 80%. *American Journal of Primatology*, 79(9): e22681.
- 2017 Pruett, J. D., Boyer Ontl, K., Cleveland, E., Lindshield, S., Marshack, J., & **Wessling, E. G.** Intragroup lethal aggression in West African chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*): Inferred killing of a former alpha male at Fongoli, Senegal. *International Journal of Primatology*, 38(1), 31-57.
- 2016 Oelze, V. M., Fahy, G. E., Hohmann, G., Robbins, M. M., Leinert, V., Lee, K., Eshuis, H., Seiler, N., **Wessling, E. G.**, Head, J. S., Boesch, C., & Köhl, H. S. Comparative isotope ecology of African great apes. *Journal of Human Evolution*, 101, 1-16.
- 2015 Pruett, J. D., Bertolani, P., Boyer Ontl, K., Lindshield, S., Shelley, M., & **Wessling, E.G.** New evidence on the tool-assisted hunting exhibited by chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) in a savannah habitat at Fongoli, Sénégal. *Royal Society Open Science*, 2(2): 140507.

**OTHER LITERATURE**

- 2020 IUCN SSC Primate Specialist Group (2020). *Regional action plan for the conservation of western chimpanzees (Pan troglodytes verus) 2020–2030*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49052>
- Groupe de spécialistes des primates de la CSE de l’UICN (2020). *Plan d’action régional pour la conservation des chimpanzés d’Afrique de l’Ouest (Pan troglodytes verus) 2020–2030*. Gland, Suisse: UICN. <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49051>
- Both versions compiled and edited by **Erin G. Wessling**, Tatyana Humle, Stefanie Heinicke, Kimberley Hockings, Dirck Byler, and Elizabeth A. Williamson.

**MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW**

- Pre-print C.D. Barratt, J.D. Lester, P. Gratton, R.E. Onstein, A.K. Kalan, M.S. McCarthy, G. Bocksberger, L.C. White, L. Vigilant, P. Dieguez, B. Abdulai, T. Aebischer, A. Agbor, A.K. Assumang, E. Bailey, M. Bessone, B. Buys, J.S. Carvalho, R. Chancellor, H. Cohen, E. Danquah, T. Deschner, Z.N. Dongmo, O.A. Doumbé, J. Dupain, C.S. Duvall, M. Eno-Nku, G. Etoga, A. Galat-Luong, R. Garriga, S. Gatti, A. Ghiurghi, A. Goedmakers, A. Granjon, D. Hakizimana, N. Haydar, J. Head, D. Hedwig, I. Herbinger, V. Hermans, S. Jones, J. Junker, P. Kadam, M. Kambi, I. Kienast, C.Y. Kouakou, K.P. N’Goran, K.E. Langergraber, J. Lapuente, A. Laudisoit, K.C. Lee, F. Maisels, D. Moore, B. Morgan, D. Morgan, E. Neil, S. Nicholl, A. Ntongho, C. Orbell, L.J. Ormsby, L. Pacheco, A.K. Piel, L. Pintea, A.J. Plumptre, A. Rundus, C. Sanz, V. Sommer, T. Sop, F.A. Stewart, J. Sunderland-Groves, N. Tagg, E. Ton, J. van Schijndel, H. VanLeeuwe, E. Vendras, A. Welsh, J.F.C. Wenceslau, **E.G. Wessling**, J. Willie, R.M. Wittig, N. Yoshihiro, Y.G. Yuh, K. Yurkiw, C. Boesch, M. Arandjelovic, H. Kühl. Late Quaternary habitat suitability models for chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*) since the Last Interglacial (120,000 BP). *Under review at Journal of Biogeography*; available online on *BioRxiv*, doi: <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.05.15.066662v1>
- Pre-print B. Mubemba, J.F. Gogarten, V.J. Schuenemann, A. Düx, A. Lang, K. Nowak, K. Pléh, E. Reiter, M. Ulrich, A. Agbor, G. Brazzola, T. Deschner, P. Dieguez, A.-C. Granjon, S. Jones, J. Junker, **E. Wessling**, M. Arandjelovic, H. Kühl, R.M. Wittig, F.H. Leendertz, S. Calvignac-Spencer. Geographically structured genomic diversity of non-human primate-infecting *Treponema pallidum* subsp. *Pertenue*. In revision for *Microbial Genomics*; available online on *BioRxiv*, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/848382>.
- Pre-print J.S. Carvalho, B. Graham, G. Bocksberger, F. Maisels, E.A. Williamson, S. Wich, T. Sop, B. Amarasekaran, R.A. Bergl, C. Boesch, H. Boesch, T.M. Brncic, B. Buys, R. Chancellor, E. Danquah, O.A. Doumbé, A. Galat-Luong, J. Ganas, S. Gatti, A. Ghiurghi, A. Goedmakers, N. Granier, D. Hakizimana, B. Haurez, J. Head, I. Herbinger, A. Hillers, S. Jones, E. Manasseh, M.S. McCarthy, B.J. Morgan, S. Nixon, L. Nkembi, E. Normand, S.H. Olson, L. Payne, C. Petre, A.K. Piel, A.J. Plumptre, A. Rundus, A. Serckx, F.A. Stewart, J. Sunderland-Groves, N. Tagg, A. Todd, A. Vosper, J.F.C. Wenceslau, **E.G. Wessling**, J. Willie, & H. Kühl. Predicting range shifts of African great apes under global change scenarios. Submitted to *Diversity and Distribution*. Available online at *BioRxiv*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.06.25.168815>
- Pre-print **Wessling, E.G.**, Dieguez, P., Llana, M., Pacheco, L. Pruetz, J., and H.S. Kühl. Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) density and environmental gradients at their biogeographical range edge. Resubmitted to *International Journal of Primatology*; available online on *BioRxiv*, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.07.14.202499>.
- Under review Lucchesi, S., Cheng, L. Deschner, T., Mundry, R., **E.G. Wessling**, & M. Surbeck. Better together? How intergroup encounters affect energy balance and feeding behavior in wild bonobos. Submitted to *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology*.
- Under review J.D. Lester, L. Vigilant, P. Gratton, M.S. McCarthy, C.D. Barratt, P. Dieguez, A. Agbor, P. Álvarez-Varona, S. Angedakin, E.A. Ayimisin, E. Bailey, M. Bessone, G. Brazzola, R. Chancellor, H. Cohen, E. Danquah, T. Deschner, V.E. Egbe, M. Eno-Nku, A. Goedmakers, A. Granjon, J. Head, D. Hedwig, R.A. Hernandez-Aguilar, K.J. Jeffery, S. Jones, J. Junker, P. Kadam, M. Kaiser, A.K. Kalan, L. Kehoe, I. Kienast, K.E. Langergraber, J. Lapuente, A. Laudisoit, K. Lee, S. Marrocoli, V.

- Mihindou, D. Morgan, G. Muhanguzi, E. Neil, S. Nicholl, C. Orbell, L.J. Ormsby, L. Pacheco, A. Piel, M.M. Robbins, A. Rundus, C. Sanz, L. Sciaky, A.M. Siaka, V. Städele, F. Stewart, N. Tagg, E. Ton, J van Schijndel, M.K. Vyalengerera, **E.G. Wessling**, J. Willie, R.M. Wittig, Y.G. Yuh, K. Yurkiw, K. Zuberbuehler, C. Boesch, H.S. Köhl & M. Arandjelovic. Recent genetic connectivity and clinal variation in chimpanzees. Under review at *Communications Biology*.
- Under review S. Heinicke, I. Ordaz-Németh, J. Junker, M.E. Bachmann, S. Marrocoli, **E.G. Wessling**, D. Byler, J. Desmond, D. Dowd, M. Fitzgerald, M. Fourier, A. Goedmakers, R.A. Hernandez-Aguilar, A. Hillers, K.J. Hockings, S. Jones, M. Kaiser, K. Koops, J.M. Lapuente, F. Maisels, J. Riedel, E. Terrade, C.G. Tweh, V. Vergnes, T. Vogt, E.A. Williamson, H.S. Köhl. Knowledge synthesis on the conservation of apes across sites. Submitted to *American Journal of Primatology*.
- Under review C.P. Bueno de Mesquita, L.M. Nichols, M.J. Gebert, C. Vanderburgh, G. Bocksberger, J.D. Lester, A.K. Kalan, P. Dieguez, M.S. McCarthy, A. Agbor, P. Álvarez Varona, E. Ayuk Ayimisin, M. Bessone, R. Chancellor, H. Cohen, C. Coupland, T. Deschner, V.E. Egbe, A. Goedmakers, J.F. Gogarten, A. Granjon, C. Grueter, J. Head, R.A. Hernandez-Aguilar, K.J. Jeffery, S. Jones, P. Kadam, M. Kaiser, J. Lapuente, B. Larson, S. Marrocoli, D. Morgan, B. Mugerwa, F. Mulindahabi, E. Neil, P. Niyigaba, L. Pacheco, A.K. Piel, M.M. Robbins, A. Rundus, C.M. Sanz, L. Sciaky, D. Sheil, V. Sommer, F.A. Stewart, E. Ton, J. van Schijndel, V. Vergnes, **E.G. Wessling**, R.M. Wittig, Y.G. Yuh, K. Yurkiw, K. Zuberbühler, A. Heintz-Buschart, A.N. Muellner-Riehl, C. Boesch, H.S. Köhl, N. Fierer, M. Arandjelovic, R.R. Dunn. A Pan-African perspective on the structure of the chimpanzee gut microbiome. Submitted to *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.
- Under review S. Phillips, R.H. Scheffrahn, A. Piel, F. Stewart, A. Agbor, G. Brazzola, A. Tickle, V. Sommer, P. Dieguez, **E.G. Wessling**, M. Arandjelovic, H. Köhl, C. Boesch, V.M. Oelze. Limited evidence of C<sub>4</sub> plant consumption in mound building *Macrotermes* termites from savanna woodland chimpanzee sites. Submitted to *PlosOne*.
- Under review S. Lindshield, R.A. Hernandez-Aguilar, A.H. Korstjens, L.F. Marchant, V. Narat, P.I. Ndiaye, H. Ogawa, A.K. Piel, J.D. Pruetz, F.A. Stewart, K.L. van Leeuwen, **E.G. Wessling**, M. Yoshikawa. Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*) in Savanna Landscapes. Submitted to *Evolutionary Anthropology*.

### **INVITED TALKS AND SYMPOSIA**

- (2020\*) **Wessling, E.G.** Matters of Models and Methods: Stable Isotope Analyses in Primatology. XXVIII Congress of the International Primatological Society (Quito, Ecuador; Invited symposium presentation)
- 2020 **Wessling, E.G.** The BonDiv Project: Conservation applications of bonobo research to biodiversity. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service International Headquarters, Virginia, USA.
- 2019 **Wessling, E.G.** In search of the limit: Contextualizing savanna chimpanzees. CNRS Group Eco-anthropologie in the Musée de l'Homme, Paris, France (Invited speaker).
- 2018 **Wessling, E.G.**, T. Deschner, R. Mundry, J.D. Pruetz, R. M. Wittig, H.S. Köhl. Addressing the concept of habitat marginality: physiological responses of chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) to seasonality across an ecological continuum. XXVII Congress of the International Primatological Society (Nairobi, Kenya; Invited symposium presentation)
- 2016 **Wessling, E.G.**, H.S. Köhl. Incorporating long-term great ape research into a regional perspective: Life at the edge of the chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) range. GEO BON Open Science Conference & All Hands Meeting (Leipzig, Germany; invited symposium presentation)
- 2016 **Wessling, E.G.** Status update on West African chimpanzee distribution and density models in preparation for IUCN/SSC Western Chimpanzee Action Plan Workshop. UNEP Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) West African Regional Meeting. (Monrovia, Liberia; Oral presentation)

- 2016 **Wessling, E.G.** The APES Database REDD+ Carbon Tool as a tool for Identifying Priority Areas for REDD Projects with Co-benefits for Great Ape Populations. UNEP Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) West African Regional Meeting. (Monrovia, Liberia; Panelist)
- 2013 **Wessling, E.G.** Determinants of the West African chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) range limit and constraints of savanna woodlands. Wenner Gren Engaged Anthropology Workshop: Atelier des Chimpanzés du Sénégal. (Kedougou, Senegal; Workshop presentation)

\* Postponed due to COVID-19

#### **OTHER CONFERENCE TALKS AND POSTERS**

- 2017 **Wessling, E.G.**, H. Kühl, T. Deschner, R. Mundry, J. Pruett. Seasonal variation in indicators of climatic and ecological stress in savannah-dwelling chimpanzees. 7<sup>th</sup> European Federation for Primatology Meeting. (Strasbourg, France; Oral Presentation)
- 2016 **Wessling, E.G.**, H. Kühl, T. Deschner, J.D. Pruett. Costs of living at the edge: Patterns of seasonal stress in wild chimpanzees at Fongoli, Senegal. XXVI Congress of the International Primatological Society (Chicago, USA; Oral presentation)
- 2016 **Wessling, E.G.**, J.D. Pruett, V. Oelze, M.P. Richards, H.S. Kühl. Living on the edge: Using isotopes to disentangle constraints imposed on chimpanzees at the frontier of the West African chimpanzee range. Chimps in Context. (Chicago, USA; Poster)
- 2015 **Wessling, E.G.**, Deschner, T., Kühl, H., J.D. Pruett. Constraints associated with living in a savanna-woodland environment: seasonal stress patterns in chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) at Fongoli, Senegal. 6<sup>th</sup> European Federation for Primatology Meeting. (Rome, Italy; Poster)
- 2010 **Wessling, E.G.**, J.D. Pruett. Methodological considerations of daily path length measurements of West African chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*). (Midwest Primate Interest Group Conference. (Chicago, USA; Poster)
- 2010 **Wessling, E.G.** Status-dependent differences in home range use among Fongoli chimpanzees. GIS Poster Symposium, Iowa State University, Ames, IA. (Poster)
- 2008 **Wessling E.G.**, J.D. Pruett. Selection of microhabitat and likelihood of germination for mantled howler monkey (*Alouatta palliata*) dispersed *Castilla elastica* seeds. ISU Honors Poster Symposium, Ames, IA. (Poster)

#### **PROFESSIONAL AND FIELD EXPERIENCE**

- 2019 - Present Co-PI with Martin Surbeck and Hjalmar Kuehl, The BonDiv Project, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- 2019 - Present Post-Doctoral Research, Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- 2012 - 2018 PI, Chimpanzee distribution and biomarkers of environmental variation, Senegal
- 2009 - 2014 Researcher, Fongoli Savanna Chimpanzee Project, Senegal
- 2007 - 2009 Research Assistant, Great Ape Trust of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa
- 2007 - 2009 Research Data Assistant, Dr. Jill Pruett, Iowa State University
- 2007 Primate Behavior and Conservation course, Danta: Association for Conservation of the Tropics, El Zota Biological Field Station, Costa Rica
- 2006 Zookeeper Intern, Minnesota Zoological Gardens, Apple Valley, Minnesota

#### **GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS**

##### **Fellowships**

- 2011 - 2018 Max Planck Gesellschaft Promotionsstipendium 114,660€
- 2008 Gary White Wildlife & Fisheries Biology Scholarship
- 2008 Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences Scholarship
- 2007 M. Virginia Sharar Memorial Scholarship

**Research Grants**

2010	International Primatological Society Research Grant	\$1397
2010	Nancy R. Coinman Award for Anthropological Research	\$300

**Academic Recognition**

2018	Finalist for Best Oral Presentation, 27 <sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Primatological Society, Nairobi, Kenya
2017	Award for Outstanding Oral Communication, 7 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the European Federation of Primatology, Strasbourg, France (3 <sup>rd</sup> Place)
2008	Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society
2006 - 2009	Iowa State University Honors Program
2005 - 2009	Dean's List, Iowa State University

**Travel Awards**

2017	iDiv Science Policy Shadowing Programme Grant	1,900€
2017	Robert-Glaser-Conference Grant, Gesellschaft für Primatologie	300€

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Instructor**

2017	(Co-Organizer, Instructor) 'Primate Behavioral Ecology' Bridge Seminar (11-BIO-0804), MSc Biology Programme, University of Leipzig, Leipzig, Germany.
2015	(Workshop Co-Lecturer) Pan African Programme Workshop. Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany.

**Teaching Assistant**

2010-2011	(Teaching Assistant, 2 semesters). Anthropology 307: Biological Anthropology, Iowa State University.
2009-2010	(Teaching Assistant; 3 semesters). Anthropology 201: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Iowa State University.
2009	(Teaching Assistant). Biology 312 Lab: Introduction to Ecology Lab, Iowa State University.

**Guest Lecturer**

2010	(Guest Lecturer). Primate Social Systems. Introduction to Mammalogy. Drake University, Des Moines, IA.
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**Mentoring**

Undergraduates: Amber Shaw (2020 – Present), Katie Farkouh (2019 – 2020)

Field experience: Miguel Adan Pascual (2019-Present)

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS**

**Active contributor to chimpanzee conservation policy in West Africa and broadly**

2020 – Present	Regional Coordinator, Implementation of the IUCN Western Chimpanzee Regional Action Plan.
2020 – Present	Member of the IUCN SSC Primate Specialist Group Section on Great Apes.
2020 – Present	CMS 'Concerted Action for Nutcracking Chimpanzees of West Africa' steering committee.
2020 – Present	Founding liaison of IUCN/SSC SGA Advisory Committee on 'Chimpanzee Cultures'.
2016 – Present	Independent consultant and scientific advisor on land use planning, EIA/ESIAs, and industrial activity impact to chimpanzees in West Africa.

- 2018 – 2020 Editor of the IUCN/SSC SGA Regional Action Plan for the Conservation of Western Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) 2020–2030. Published June 2020.
- 2017 Invited International Expert/Participant. IUCN/SSC West African Chimpanzee Action Plan Workshop (Monrovia, Liberia).
- 2016 – 2018 Scientific Task Force. IUCN/SSC Western Chimpanzee Action Plan Workshop.
- 2016 Invited International Expert/Participant. UNEP Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) West African Regional Meeting. Monrovia, Liberia.
- 2015 Invited Scientist/Participant. UNEP Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) National Meeting: Senegal. Kédougou, Senegal.

### **Organizational, Editorial, or Expert Assessment**

- 2018 – Present Co-editor (with Dr. Stacy Lindshield) for a Special Issue in the *International Journal of Primatology*, “Understanding Savanna Chimpanzees”, due out in 2020.
- 2020 Organizer, ‘Bleeding Edge of Primatology: Lessons learned from the application of cutting-edge’ Symposium at IPS Quito, Ecuador
- 2017 Expert evaluator for: Junker, J., Köhl, H.S., Orth, L., Smith, R.K., Petrovan, S.O. and Sutherland, W.J. Primate conservation: Global evidence for the effects of interventions. University of Cambridge, UK <https://www.conservationevidence.com/synopsis/>

### **Ad hoc reviewer for**

*Journals:* Journal of Human Evolution, International Journal of Primatology, Journal of Threatened Taxa  
*Granting Bodies:* The Leakey Foundation

### **Scientific Member of**

International Primatological Society  
American Society of Primatology  
Gesellschaft für Primatologie

### **Departmental and Service to the Discipline**

- 2020 – Present Founding member of Department of HEB Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce
- 2020 – Present Voluntary English editing assistance of manuscripts for African range state scholars (n=2)
- 2015 – 2017 Co-organizer of Department of Primatology Soft Skills Seminar series

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH AND OTHER SERVICE**

### **Lectures for a public audience**

- 2020 Skype a Scientist for three classrooms, ranging from 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grades
- 2015 Chimpanzee Research in West Africa. Lion’s Club, Vinton Chapter. Vinton, Iowa.
- 2013 Chimpanzee Research in Senegal. International School of Dakar, Dakar, Senegal.

### **Citizen science**

- 2015-Present Chimp & See, (<http://www.chimpandsee.org>) Scientist/Moderator.



**Documentary and other multi-media assistance**

- 2017 – 2019 Contributor. Art exhibition (multi-media, photography, video) by Emmanuel Mathias, “*On the Margins of the Field*”, access: <https://www.emmanuelmathias.com/en/project/arbeit-am-material-2/>
- 2017 Contributor. Footage of tool-assisted hunting by a chimpanzee at Fongoli, Senegal included as a contribution to “*Premier Homme*”, Full-length documentary featured on *Arte*
- 2009 Contributor. Footage of tool-assisted hunting by a chimpanzee at Fongoli, Senegal included as a contribution to “*Chimps: Next of Kin*”, Full-length documentary by *National Geographic*

**SELECTED PRESS (\*interview provided)**

- [2020. IUCN “Regional Action Plan for the Conservation of Western Chimpanzees...”]  
[10-year plan hopes to give western chimpanzees a fighting chance](#) (Mendeley\*)
- [2019. Kühl et al., “Human disturbance erodes chimpanzee behavioral diversity”]  
[Humans are wiping out chimpanzee cultures](#) (Science)  
[Humans rock up and destroy chimpanzee cultures](#) (The Times)  
[Chimpanzees develop distinct local cultures, and we’re destroying them](#) (Washington Post)  
[Humans Are Destroying Chimpanzee Culture](#) (Smithsonian)  
[Chimpanzees Are Going Through a Tragic Loss](#) (The Atlantic)
- [2018. Wessling et al., “Seasonal variation in physiology challenges the notion of chimpanzees...”]  
[Strategien gegen die Affenhitze](#) (Berliner Zeitung\*)  
Reprinted nationally in *Stuttgarter Zeitung*, *Badische Zeitung*, and *Sächsische Zeitung*, among others
- [2018. Wessling et al., “Costs of living at the edge: Seasonal stress in savanna-dwelling chimpanzees”]  
[Hints of Human Evolution in Chimpanzees That Endure a Savanna's Heat](#) (New York Times\*)  
Reprinted globally, profiled in numerous scientific blogs
- [2017. Pruetz et al., “Intragroup lethal aggression in West African chimpanzees ...”]  
[In Rare Killing Chimpanzees Cannibalize Former Leader](#) (National Geographic)  
[Chimpanzees Overthrow Tyrannical Leader](#) (Independent)  
[In rare display of brutality, chimpanzees beat and cannibalize their former leader](#) (Washington Post)
- [2015. Pruetz et al., “New evidence on the tool-assisted hunting exhibited by chimpanzees...”]  
[Female Chimps More Likely Than Males to Hunt With Tools](#) (Smithsonian)  
[Chimps That Hunt Offer a New View on Evolution](#) (New York Times)  
[Primate Females may have pioneered hunting with weapons](#) (New Scientist)  
[Wenn Schimpansen-Weibchen zum Speer greifen](#) (Die Welt)  
[Nuevos datos sobre los chimpancés que han aprendido a cazar con lanzas](#) (La Vanguardia)  
[Les femmes pourraient avoir été les premières à chasser à l'aide d'armes](#) (Slate France)