

Call for Papers

Special Topic: Commensal Vertebrate Pests



There are several wildlife species that occur worldwide that live in close association with humans, including several rat species, house mice, pigeons, crows, and starlings, to name a few. Some of them such as rats, mice, and starlings are considered pests around farms, ranches, and homes. Others, such as pigeons, are concerns for human health. These are commonly referred to as “commensal vertebrate pests” because of their intimate relationships with and dependence on humans.

Society has existed with commensal rodents as far back as written history. We have sought to control their populations to decrease damage to crops as well as protect human health. The last century brought many changes in the techniques used to manage vertebrate pests, including new trapping methods and new chemicals to increase mortality. The last century also brought changes to laws and regulations regarding management and control. However, in recent decades, there have been innovative responses to changing laws, increased human populations, and available technology.

Human–Wildlife Interactions is interested in publishing a special issue about education programs, activities, and research that highlights the impacts of new technological advances and monitoring programs, and changing management regulations contributing to mitigating damage and human health concerns caused by commensal rodents. We hope by highlighting these efforts, we can better identify how public and private agencies and organizations can assist affected stakeholders in mitigating the impacts of commensal vertebrate pests in a dynamic environment also faced with a changing climate.

For additional information about this special issue’s focus, contact S. Nicole Frey, HWI Associate Editor, at nicki.frey@usu.edu, or Terry Messmer, HWI Editor-in-Chief, at terry.messmer@usu.edu.

Submit Your Manuscript

The submission deadline for contributing a research article, case study, opinion, commentary, or other manuscript for this special issue is **March 1, 2019**. View the author submission guidelines and submit your manuscript online at