

Justin Askim

Wildlife Biologist/Natural Resources Specialist



RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Justin Askim joined Western Plains Consulting, Inc. (WPC) team as a Wildlife Biologist/Natural Resource Specialist with a background in a variety of biological fieldwork. His primary expertise and interests are in wildlife surveys, hydrology, wetland research, and post-construction avian/bat mortality studies related to wind energy developments.

He also offers experience in botany, various types of biological sampling, environmental data collection, and groundwater monitoring systems.

KEY PROJECTS

• **Project Manager – Post-Construction Avian/bat Mortality Surveys** - Conducted post-construction avian/bat mortality surveys at wind farm in Hand County, South Dakota.

• **Project Manager – Winter Raptor Surveys** - Conducted winter raptor surveys to determine winter raptor activity for future wind development in Converse County, Wyoming.

Project Manager - Avian Point-Count Surveys - Selected avian point count sites, described avian habitat, conducted spring and fall surveys to record avian presence and density within areas designated for wind turbine development in Logan and Emmons County, North Dakota and Converse County, Wyoming.

• **Project Manager - Sandhill Crane Survey** - Conducted crane survey at avian point count locations to determine crane migration patterns in Oliver and Logan County, North Dakota.

• **Project Manager – Site Monitor** - On-site to escort geotechnical crews through proposed wind farm and conducted nesting bird surveys to minimize disturbance to migratory birds in Burleigh County, North Dakota.

• **Avian Point-Count Reports** - Wrote reports based on avian point count, raptor nest, sandhill crane and lek surveys in Emmons, Logan, and Bowman Counties, North Dakota.

• **Sharp-tailed grouse and Greater Prairie Chicken Lek Survey** - Conducted lek surveys in model lek densities in Hyde, Hand, Hughes, Jerauld and Buffalo Counties, South Dakota.

• **Wetland Delineation** – Conducted botanical/wetland surveys and other aspects related to a proposed pipeline project. The study included multiple sites that covered 18 miles in McKenzie and Dunn County, North Dakota.

• **Wetland Gas Emission Studies** - Collected gas emission from wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region throughout Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Montana. Monitored and installed wells and piezometers to determine ground water movement, used soil moisture loggers to monitor surface water infiltration, and weather stations to model relationship between surface runoff and ground water movement to rain events in the Prairie Pothole Region

• **Wildlife and Biological Studies** - Conducted wildlife and biological studies on pre- and post-mined land to determine wildlife use on the property. Delineated wetlands for future mining activities to determine acreage and floristic composition for reclamation. Collected soil borings to help determine top soil dispersion on post mined areas.

• **Wetland Soil Surveys** - Collected bulk density and composite soil samples from wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region in Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota and Montana.

- **Private and Public Lands Management** - Performed chemical and mechanical weed control, spurge beetle relocation, and signing of the PLOTS program land through North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

- WPC, Inc., Wildlife Biologist/Natural Resources Specialist, October 2008-Present
- United States Geological Survey, Biological Service Technician, March 2006-October 2008
- Falkirk Mining Company, Environmental Technician, May 2005-August 2005
- United States Geological Survey, Biological Science Technician, May 2004-August 2004
- North Dakota Game and Fish Department, Wildlife Technician, May 2003-August 2003

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

- North Dakota State University, B.S., Natural Resource Management
- North Dakota State University, Minor, Economics

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

- Western Bat Working Group Biannual Workshop

AFFILIATIONS

- Member, North Dakota Wildlife Society
- Member, Ducks Unlimited
- Member, Pheasants Forever