**Rationale:** Compiling, synthesizing, and logically summarizing bodies of peer-reviewed literature are necessary skills for aspiring wildlife biologists to be successful in their academic and professional careers. As students, reviewing literature related to projects you select in FWLD 220 and upper-level wildlife courses in the coming years will be required. This assignment is intended to give you practice honing these skills in a setting that is (arguably!) lower-stakes than project development during your upper-level wildlife courses. The specific objectives for this assignment are to:

- Develop literature searching skills for peer-reviewed journal articles related to wildlife topics.
- Understand basic literature citation formatting conventions adopted by the Journal of Wildlife Management. Particular emphasis will be placed on the general format for peer-reviewed journal articles, general format for books (and chapters of books), government publications, and web citations.
- Build skills related to paraphrasing peer-reviewed literature to help avoid plagiarism.

**Assignment:** For this assignment, **students will work in groups of 2-3. Groups must be composed of students within your lab section.** Each group will conduct a thorough review of literature related to a wildlife ecology and/or management topic of your choosing. **Peer-reviewed journal articles should be the focus of each literature review,** but other sources of relevant literature (e.g., books, government reports, websites, etc…) can be incorporated when appropriate. In addition to searching for and compiling literature, each group is required to write a well-crafted, logically-flowing review of the literature they have found. Note that the structure of a literature review is far different than the structure of a conventional manuscript or report of research results. For example, most literature reviews contain four (4) general sections (i.e., Introduction, Body [with appropriate subheadings], Conclusion, and Literature Cited) rather than the six (6) more specific sections of a research manuscript (i.e., Introduction, Study Area, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Literature Cited). Consequently, more careful thought must be given to organization and writing style in order to 1) produce a logically flowing review and 2) avoid plagiarism when summarizing and tying together the findings of others. See the attached example of a quality literature review.

**Each literature review should include the following sections:** Abstract, Introduction, Body (with appropriate, informative headings), Conclusion, and Literature Cited. Each literature review must adequately summarize a body of knowledge based on at least 20 peer-reviewed journal articles. I suspect that most papers will need to be 6-7 pages of text (typed; double-spaced; 12 pt font) excluding Literature Cited to accomplish this. Keep in mind that if a citation is given in the Literature Cited section then that source must also be referenced within the literature review text and vice versa. Relevant figures or tables from published literature can be incorporated into your papers to highlight key points if necessary, but be sure to provide citations for these.
In order to ensure you are making adequate progress throughout the semester, the following timetable should be followed. Note that the drafts of your paper listed below will be edited and graded accordingly based on the product you submit by the due dates below. Drafts submitted after the dates indicated below will not be edited and you will lose these points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part of Literature Review</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic selection</td>
<td>11 February 2019</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literature Cited draft</td>
<td>25 February 2019</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction draft</td>
<td>11 March 2019</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Body draft</td>
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<td>Final paper</td>
<td>29 April 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral presentation</td>
<td>6 May 2019</td>
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</table>
Literature Review Term Paper Grading Rubric

Name: _______________________________    Total points: ___________ (100 pts)

I. Format and Content of Abstract

   I. __________ (10 pts)

   ___ Single paragraph; length appropriate (e.g., ≤250 words)
   ___ Summary of problem/topic, pertinent findings, and important knowledge gaps

II. Format and Content of Introduction

   II. __________ (20 pts)

   ___ Strong rationale for problem/topic supported by relevant literature
   ___ Objective(s) of literature review
   ___ Length appropriate (e.g., ca. 4-5 paragraphs)

III. Format and Content of Body

   III. __________ (40 pts)

   ___ Logically organized with thematic, informative headings and/or subheadings
   ___ Findings of others tied together and synthesized to illustrate and support key concepts or points of view
   ___ Important and relevant knowledge gaps identified
   ___ Strong writing style (e.g., limited use of “Masse (2015) found that…”) 
   ___ Length appropriate (e.g., should be majority of literature review)

IV. Format and Content of Conclusion

   IV. __________ (20 pts)

   ___ Main points tied together to show clear link to overarching problem/topic from Introduction
   ___ Suggestions for future research to address key knowledge gaps or advance understanding of problem/topic
   ___ Length appropriate (e.g., ca. 3-4 paragraphs)

V. Format and Content of Literature Cited

   V. __________ (10 pts)

   ___ ≥ 20 peer-reviewed journal articles
   ___ Citations follow formatting of Author Guidelines for Journal of Wildlife Management (available on Moodle)