

Trent and Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources researchers profiled in back-to-back Canadian Geographic cover articles.

The May-June and July/August issues of Canadian Geographic magazine profiled research projects being undertaken by members of the Biology department and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) at Trent.

The May/June issue featured an article assessing the potential adaptability of hybrid wolf x coyotes, also known as the eastern coyote, and novel hybrid flying squirrels following the northward range expansion of one of the parental species. Ongoing wolf/coyote and flying squirrel work at Trent aims to understand the ecological and human-caused factors affecting patterns of hybridization as well as the current and likely future distribution of hybrid animals. The wolf/coyote research has been a long-standing collaboration with Drs. Brad White (former Canada Research Chair in Conservation Genetics and current Chair of the Biology Department), Dr. Dennis Murray (Canada Research Chair in Terrestrial Ecology) and Dr. Paul Wilson (Canada Research Chair in DNA Profiling, Forensics and Functional Genomics) from Trent and Dr. Brent Patterson of the OMNR. The flying squirrel research is a collaborative project between Dr. Wilson and Dr. Jeff Bowman of the OMNR funded by both the provincial ministry and NSERC Discovery grants to both researchers. This issue can be found at <http://geochallenge.ca/magazine/jun10>.



The July/August issue focused on a collaborative project funded through the NSERC Strategic Grants program to Drs. Wilson, Murray and Bowman to develop habitat suitability models and study the landscape genetics of the Canada lynx. This research is a response to ongoing concern regarding the connectivity between lynx populations across the species' range. The article describes the international cross-border efforts of the US and Canada to conserve and manage this species. This issue can be found at <http://geochallenge.ca/magazine/ja10/>.