

# Elizabeth Feth

Department: Biological Sciences  
Major: Biological Sciences  
Research Advisor: Dr. Robin Verble  
Advisor Department: Biological Sciences

Funding Source: OURE

## Gender and Ethnicity Bias in Wildland Fire Journals

Despite numerous efforts to improve both ethnic and gender diversity, STEM continues to be dominated by white men, particularly in field-based and management-driven disciplines of biology. The Association for Fire Ecology and the International Association for Wildland Fire have both formed diversity and inclusion committees since 2010 to examine and promote a more inclusive and balanced field; however, progress in these arenas can be slow. We examined peer reviewer discrimination against women and ethnic minorities in the International Journal of Wildland Fire in papers published from 2010 to 2019 utilizing the number of days in review compared against the total number of paper citations as a measure of discrimination. We found that the ethnicity and gender of the paper's first author both influenced the time that a paper spent in review, and to a lesser extent, the gender and ethnicity of the paper's last author also had an effect.

---

*Elizabeth Feth is a senior Biological Sciences major with an interest in Conservation and Ecology. Her hometown is Beaufort, Missouri where she lives on a small farm that spurred her passion for animals and being outdoors. On campus she is the Vice President of the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS), and the President of the Equestrian Club, a member of Phi Sigma Biological Honor Society and a member of the Ceramic Artists at Missouri S&T (CAST). In her spare time, she enjoys volunteering at Camp David and the Rolla Mission as well as spending time with her barn family.*