

The Botstiber Institute for Wildlife Fertility Control Opens European Office in the UK

BIWFC Europe will increase the Institute's international presence

MEDIA, PA, USA, September 8, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [The Botstiber Institute for Wildlife Fertility Control](#) (BIWFC) is pleased to announce the opening of a BIWFC European office at the University of York, United Kingdom. This new European center will assist BIWFC in its mission to advance the use of effective, sustainable fertility control methods to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts and promote coexistence worldwide. Through an agreement with the University, [BIWFC Europe](#) will be housed on campus in the Department of Environment and Geography.



Dr. Giovanna Massei, BIWFC Europe Director

“We are very excited to be expanding our global reach with an office in the UK,” said Monique Principi, BIWFC Managing Director. “This new initiative will broaden the Institute’s ability to educate and advance the field beyond the United States and increase our international presence.”

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*Monique Principi, BIWFC
Managing Director*

The Botstiber Institute for Wildlife Fertility Control, headquartered in Media, PA in the United States, was established in 2016 as a partnership between The Dietrich W. Botstiber Foundation and The Humane Society of the United States. The Institute serves as a resource center for the field of wildlife fertility control by stimulating vital discussion, collaboration, and networking through events

such as conferences, workshops and seminars. BIWFC also supports wildlife fertility control projects through grants, and works to educate wildlife managers, policy makers and the public.

The new BIWFC Europe office will carry out the Institute’s general mission, purpose and goals focusing on promoting fertility control through knowledge exchange and stakeholder and public

engagement. BIWFC Europe will act as a catalyst for the activities of the BIWFC Headquarters and offer a fulcrum from which many initiatives could be carried out.

Overseeing these initiatives will be Dr. Giovanna Massei, BIWFC Europe's new director. Dr. Massei has worked in wildlife management for 30 years with 17 years in fertility control research. In addition, she has served on the BIWFC Advisory Board for several years. Dr. Massei currently serves as Senior Ecologist, at the National Wildlife Management Centre of the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), UK. She will continue her work with APHA while also serving as the BIWFC Europe Director.

"Giovanna has experience in wildlife fertility control with a large number of species, ranging from squirrels to buffalos, in a wide spectrum of contexts and countries," explained Stephanie Boyles Griffin, BIWFC Science and Policy Director. "She has experience in applied research aimed at delivering tools and solutions to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts and at translating science into practical applications. In addition," Boyles Griffin continued, "Giovanna has been an extremely active advisory board member and has an established relationship with BIWFC and its staff."

According to Dr. Massei, current trends of human population growth and landscape development in Europe suggest that human-wildlife interactions will continue to increase. Widespread community opposition to lethal control is limiting wildlife management options, particularly for high public-profile species.

"As a result, there is significant pressure to implement humane, effective, non-lethal methods to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts," Dr. Massei said. "BIWFC Europe provides the ideal platform to raise awareness about contexts and species in which fertility control could be used to manage wildlife."

In her role as director of BIWFC Europe Dr. Massei will plan, manage, and lead the Institute's European programs, such as conferences, workshops, grants and projects, and public education initiatives. She will pursue collaboration with European partners/affiliates as well as engage with staff and students at the University of York to increase study and encourage research on wildlife fertility control.

"I'm thrilled to take on this new position with the Botstiber Institute for Wildlife Fertility Control," Dr. Massei continued. "I believe strongly in their mission and am excited to expand their presence outside the US."

The Botstiber Institute for Wildlife Fertility Control marks its fifth anniversary this year with an array of events and projects including "[An Overview of Wildlife Fertility Control](#)," an educational film which offers an introduction to one of the most important issues of wildlife population control today. To learn more about BIWFC or to view the film, visit www.wildlifefertilitycontrol.org.

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