



FOREST AND WILDLIFE ECOLOGY NEWS

A Newsletter for Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology Staff, Students and Alumni

Vol. 10, No. 2

September 2007

News from the Chair

As the name of our newsletter now indicates, the forestry and wildlife programs officially merged on July 1, 2007 to form the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology. This single, larger and more diverse department now numbers 21 faculty, more than 200 graduate and undergraduate students and some 30-plus specialists and staff. We have included some very brief sketches of the faculty and instructional staff inside.

We will welcome Dr. Mutlu Ozdogan (see page 7) at the end of August, and we are currently recruiting two new faculty that we hope will be able to join us during the next several months. A number of additional changes will occur during the next 6-12 months (e.g., our web sites will be merged) but other administrative changes will take time to put in place.

The process of merger required that we think about who we are and what we wish to become as a program. We spent time over several months discussing and refining new vision and mission statements (see page 6) for the new department. The end result is a clear and concise statement regarding our strengths and our ambitions. We cannot be all things to all people, so we have focused on a set of core activities and issues for which we can achieve excellence. These core areas will guide our instruction, research and outreach programs and help us navigate the increasingly competitive environments in which we work and live.

One thing that we expect to continue unchanged is our tradition of training excellent graduate students. A number of our current students have received awards and we are proud to note their accomplishments here in the newsletter. We have every reason to believe that this tradition of excellence in education will continue.

A second feature of our department that should remain very strong is the research productivity of the faculty and scientists. Bill Karasov's newly co-authored book is just out (*Physiological Ecology*), and several faculty have received awards related to excellence in their profession. There is a steady flow of post-doctoral scientists and international fellows between UW-Madison and other institutions that enriches all of our lives and is expected to increase in the future.

To most alumni, perhaps the most important concern regarding the merger is ensuring that we continue to provide a high quality undergraduate education. Our Forest Science and Wildlife Ecology majors will continue unchanged. We continue to hear of the successful careers that our graduates have created and we look forward to supporting programs that will open doors for graduates in forestry and wildlife professions.

We hope that our alumni and friends will continue to be supportive as we open a new page in our history. University departments are often slow to restructure but may actually benefit from reorganizations that bring together the right mix of people and resources. We believe that the positives to this merger far outweigh the negatives, but this will only become clear after a few

years' time. In the meantime, we would like very much to hear from you. And if your travels should take you to Madison, please stop by and say hello.

— Ray Guries, Chair

Alumni Update

Dan Mrotek (B.S. 2003) began graduate study this fall at Roosevelt University in Chicago. He'll be working toward obtaining his M.A. in School and Community counseling. (djmrotek@gmail.com)

Dan Meyer (B.S. 1991) checked in from his home in North Carolina. He is editor of five hardwood lumber trade periodicals that cover domestic and international market information related to hardwood lumber and manufactured products. Dan and his wife, Beth, have three children ages 12, 10, and 7 and are involved in church activities, including a mission program that hosts international at-risk kids during the summer. (dan@hardwoodreview.com)

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*Alumni News, continued from page 1*

Brian Tucker (B.S. 2000) says “aloha” from the Big Island of Hawaii where he has a position managing endangered species preservation at Pohakuloa Training Area, a 120,000-acre army installation on the island. His program manages about 40,000 acres of the installation for the protection of 15 federally listed threatened and endangered plant species as well as a dozen “species of concern.” Brian says news of the wildlife/forestry merger prompted him to contact us expressing his support for the combined department. Brian’s family includes a recent addition, Lyla (3 months old), as well as daughters Payton (age 6), Soloriana (age 3), and his wife, Stacey. (tuckeraloha@hawaiiintel.net)

Richard Taplin (B.S. 1978) sends his best wishes for the department merger. He says combining wildlife and forestry is a natural and should make for a very good education opportunity. Richard is Assistant Park Manager at Ponderosa State Park in McCall, Idaho. (LAK@idpr.idaho.gov)

Erin Prendergast (B.S. 2006) is working as a naturalist at Carkeek Park in

Seattle, WA, teaching kids about forest, wildlife and coastal ecology. She is also helps Conservation Northwest with their national forest campaigns, including Wildland-Urban Interface management issues and Lynx protection in the Northern Cascades. (ecprendergast@gmail.com)

Nick Povak (M.S. 2005) is an ecologist for the US Forest Service working out of the Pacific Northwest Research Station in Wenatchee. He is working on a wide variety of projects including analyzing the effects of restoration treatments on dry conifer forest structure and insect and pathogen populations, modeling tree growth responses to climate in subalpine coniferous forests, and modeling patch size distributions of landcover types within the interior Columbia River Basin. (napovak@gmail.com)

Carolyn Cromer (M.S. 2003) has moved to California to take the position of Coordinator with the Land Trust of Napa County-Preserve Stewardship. She manages preserves and fee simple owned lands for the Land Trust. The habitats she manages include redwood and Douglas fir forests, oak woodlands, chaparral, and grasslands. (carolyn-cromer@yahoo.com)

Sam Nitz (B.S. 2004) has taken a job as Marketing/Sales Account Executive at The Clinton Group, a political consulting firm in Washington, D.C. that specializes in direct contact with voters. He works on both political and environmental projects. Following his UW-Madison degree Sam earned a M.A. in Political Management from George Washington University in 2006. (Samuelnitz@gmail.com)

Student News

Maxim Dubinin receives doctoral fellowship

NASA has awarded Maxim Dubinin, a Ph.D. graduate student working with Prof. Radeloff, a doctoral fellowship amid heavy competition. The award will support Maxim’s research for up to three years. His research focuses on changes in vegetation of saiga antelope habitat in southern Russia using satellite images and geographic information systems.

Student News continues on page 3



Jenny Martin selected for Teaching Academy Future Faculty Partner

Ph.D. student Jenny Martin was selected a fellow for the UW-Madison Teaching Academy Future Faculty Partner (FFP). She was inducted into the program at a ceremony in April. Jenny was chosen based on her commitment to higher education and teaching in a research-oriented environment. She has already demonstrated her ability to teach and conduct research. She has taught an advanced undergraduate forest ecology course and also presented guest lectures in an introductory forestry course. At the same time she is making substantial progress on her own research. As a fellow with FFP she will participate in professional development opportunities and will interact with other graduate students and faculty across campus to prepare for a career in teaching and research in an academic setting.

In the photo to the left, Jenny and research intern Jacob Mulinix measure soil surface CO₂ at a research site. Photo by Aaron Terr



Student News, continued from page 2

Gregorio Gavier awarded field research grant

Graduate student Gregorio Gavier is the recipient of a Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies Field Research Grant. The grant will cover up to \$1,200 of international air travel and \$100 per diem in support of his field research for a project titled "Urbanization: Patterns and Invasion of an Exotic Tree." The grant is intended to encourage interdisciplinary research in Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain, and Portugal and is supported with funding from the Tinker Foundation and the Nave Bequest.

Ravenscroft awarded travel grant

Catherine Ravenscroft was awarded a travel grant from the ESA Student Section and the Applied Ecology Section of the Ecological Society of America to attend the ESA annual meeting in San Jose in August. Catherine presented an invited paper, titled "Simulating forest landscape restoration in a mixed ownership landscape under climate change." Catherine is working towards her Masters degree under the guidance of Professor David Mladenoff.

Foster receives travel grant

NASA-MSU awarded graduate student Jane Foster a travel grant to present her research at the US Landscape Ecology Society annual meeting in Tucson, AZ in April. Jane's presentation was titled, "Geostatistical analysis of satellite mapped defoliation intensity: Integrating results and modeling defoliation effects on above-ground biomass." She co-authored her paper with Robert Scheller, Philip Townsend and David Mladenoff. Jane is working on her Ph.D. in Forest Ecology and is focusing her efforts on understanding the effects of defoliation outbreaks on long-term trends in above-ground Carbon in forested landscapes using field data, satellite imagery, and the simulation model, Landis-II.

Faculty/Staff News

Wisconsin Conservation Congress honors Tim Van Deelen

Professor Tim Van Deelen received a special recognition award from the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) for "outstanding service to the state's conservation community and, specifically, for dedication to Wisconsin's deer management program." He received the award in May at the WCC's annual statewide convention at Telemark Resort in Cable, Wisconsin.

David Mladenoff presents keynote address in Sweden

Professor David Mladenoff traveled to Stockholm, Sweden in May to present the keynote address at a conference on old and primeval forests in the Nordic and Baltic countries. His keynote address topic was natural disturbance in old forests in the U.S. Lake States. Also while in Sweden he presented seminars and visited colleagues at universities in Stockholm, Uppsala and Umea.

Volker Radeloff receives Pound Research Award

The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences has awarded Professor Volker Radeloff the Pound Research Award. Prof. Radeloff was selected based on his accomplishments using geospatial technologies to study the impacts of disturbances, such as wildfires, on forests and wildlife. Prof. Radeloff and other CALS award recipients were honored at a ceremony and reception on campus in May. As testimony to Prof Radeloff's expertise in the area, *The New York Times* included a quote from him in a June 26 article about the wildfires in the Lake Tahoe area of California.

William Karasov co-authors new book

Professor William Karasov has a new co-authored book out titled

Physiological Ecology: How Animals



Process Energy, Nutrients, and Toxins. Professor Karasov and co-author Carlos Martinez del Rio present an overview of the physiological and biochemical principles that shape how animals procure energy and nutrients and free themselves of toxins. The book also links the physiological mechanisms of resource use with ecological phenomena such as how and why animals choose what they eat and how they participate in the exchange of energy and materials in their biological communities. For more information, visit the publisher's web page: <<http://press.princeton.edu/titles/8590.html>>

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Scott Craven receives UW and USDA awards

Prof. Scott Craven was honored with two awards this year and one in late 2006. In September of this year, Prof. Craven will receive the Chancellors' Career Award from the UW Extension and UW College System in recognition of his career achievements and service to Extension, the people of Wisconsin and the State's natural resources. In June the USDA Wildlife Services presented him with their Partner Appreciation Award for his commitment and support for the the Wildlife Services program in Wisconsin. And last fall the Ruffed Grouse Society honored him for his 28 years of support for forest and wildlife conservation and management.



Introducing...faculty and staff of the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology

Note that all staff mailing addresses are the following:

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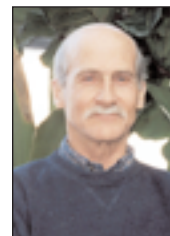
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mals.





Nancy Langston promoted

Congratulations to Nancy Langston, who was promoted to full professor in April. Professor Langston is an environmental historian who focuses on two major fields of research: forest history and environmental health. She is currently working on two projects: a history of adaptive management focused on forested watersheds of northern Wisconsin and a study examining the links between ecosystem health and human health. She has a joint appointment with the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies.

Search is on to fill two faculty positions

The Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology is in the process of hiring individuals for two openings—an Assistant Professor with expertise in Human Dimensions of Ecosystem Management and an Assistant Professor specializing in Wildlife Ecology/Conservation Biology. Both positions are tenure track, academic year positions with a combination of research and instruction responsibilities. For details about the positions, visit the department's web site: <http://forest.wisc.edu/positions>.

Stan Temple retires from UW

Professor Stan Temple retired recently after a distinguished 32-year academic



Stan Temple

career in conservation and ecology. He now continues work as Senior Fellow and Science Advisor with the Aldo Leopold Foundation where he will help expand research and outreach activities that promote Leopold's "land ethic." Prof. Temple has worked in 28 different countries and with some of the world's most endangered species. He was the first person honored with the Beers Bascom Professor in Conservation. He also received honors from the Society for Conservation Biology (which he helped found) and the Wisconsin

Goals, vision set for new Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology

Combining two departments into one requires that both departments assess their current strengths, weaknesses, and future goals. In the long run this has the positive result of putting everyone on the same page and working toward the same goals. Prior to the merger of the Department of Forest Ecology and Management and the Department of Wildlife Ecology, faculty and staff spent many hours discussing just what the vision and goals of the new department should be. In a nutshell, the merged department will strive to strengthen its premier research, instruction and outreach programs that support forest and wildlife conservation and management in an ecological, economical, and socially sustainable fashion. More specifically, the department will focus on three core areas as well as the overlap among them. These core areas are:

Quantitative and spatial analysis and modeling of forest and wildlife resources and ecosystems. This core area involves the integration of remote sensing and ecosystem analysis to understand how complex ecological processes operate across a range of spatial and temporal scales.

Applied ecology in support of resource conservation and management. While operating on a range of scales from molecular to global, this core area focuses on conserving and managing forest and wildlife resources and the ecological processes that characterize natural ecosystems.

Assessment and integration of the human dimensions of forest and wildlife resource conservation and management. This core area deals with the social science and decision-making skills that underpin sustainable approaches to using and interacting with natural resources, especially forests and wildlife.

The intersection of the above three domains symbolizes the department's commitment to the management, instruction and outreach activities the department provides. Here, ultimately, is where we will help students, stakeholders, and the public understand and appreciate the importance of natural resources and their management to retain and restore healthy ecosystems.

Society for Ornithology. In addition to his faculty position in Wildlife Ecology, he held appointments in the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies and the Environmental Toxicology Center. Professor Temple guided 75 graduate students to achieve their degrees and assume positions of leadership in conservation throughout the world.

Mark Rickenbach on study leave

Professor Mark Rickenbach began a year-long study leave in July. During his leave he plans to explore "social network analysis" as it might be applied to forest-

ed landscape and its use. During the course of his studies he hopes to find responses to questions such as: How do relationships among people shape landscape change? How might such relationships be used to foster certain landscape outcomes over others? Prof. Rickenbach will investigate case studies in Wisconsin, New England and Europe. During his leave Professor Rickenbach will be a Visiting Fellow at the Aldo Leopold Foundation in Baraboo, Wis. With support from a Charles Bullard Fellowship in Forest Research, during the fall semester he will be at Harvard Forest in Petersham, Mass. He will spend a portion of the spring semester in Europe.



Welcome to our new faculty member—Mutlu Ozdogan

The Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology welcomes its newest member—Professor Mutlu Ozdogan—who joined the department in August. Professor Ozdogan's research focuses on land-use/land-cover conversion and climate change impacts on the global water and energy cycles and how they interact with ecosystem goods and services that are important to human well-being. He is also interested in improving the information content of satellite observations through algorithm and model development.

Prior to his appointment at UW-Madison, Professor Ozdogan was a National Research Council post-doc

fellow at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. His educational credentials include a B.Sc. in geological engineering from Istanbul University in Turkey, a MSc. in geology from North Carolina State University, a M.A. in environmental remote sensing and a Ph.D. in geography and environment from Boston University. Professor Ozdogan will split his time equally with the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology and the Nelson Institute for Environmental Study's Center for Sustainability and Global Environment (SAGE).

Professor Ozdogan's prior research was related to water resource scarcity

and satellite-assisted methods of searching for additional water resources in the Middle East. He has been involved in several research projects examining the impacts of human land use on hydrologic cycles, wetlands and carbon budgets. While much of his work has taken place in the Middle East, his recent research has focused on the U.S. and the relationships between irrigation, productivity and hydrology.

Professor Ozdogan is married to Annemarie Schneider, who joins the faculty of the UW-Madison's Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies.

Forest and Wildlife Ecology Capital Fund

We invite you to join us in our efforts to establish a capital fund. Proceeds will be used to support student travel to professional meetings, help cover the costs of the summer field camp and the southern trip and to renovate work space in Russell Labs.

I/we would like to donate: ____ \$25 ____ \$50 ____ \$75 ____ \$100 ____ Other _____
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I/we would like to pledge \$_____ each year for _____ years.

Please charge my gift of \$_____ to my (please circle): Mastercard Visa American Express

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If paying by check, please make your gift payable to UW Foundation Forestry Fund, University of Wisconsin Foundation, 1848 University Avenue, P.O. Box 8860, Madison, WI 53708-8860



Alumni Update

We'd like to hear what's new with you, your family, career, etc. Please complete and return the form below to: Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, 1630 Linden Drive, UW-Madison, Madison, WI 53706. Or e-mail the information to <rpгурies@wisc.edu>.

Name: _____

Degree and Date Received: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Tel No. _____ Fax No. _____

Current employer and position: _____

News to share: _____

Please send us your email address

We would like to reduce the cost of printing and mailing future newsletters but want to stay in touch with you. We will make sure you receive an electronic version of our newsletter if you provide us with an email address. Please send your email address to Mary Miron at:

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We will continue to mail a paper copy to alumni and friends who prefer this format.

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