

The Murreletter

Society for Northwestern
Vertebrate Biology

Volume 13, No. 1

January 2005

President's Message

Happy 2005 SNVB!

First, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Ian Reid who has stepped forward as our new Murreletter Editor. This is his trial-by-fire issue ... it'll be easier next go-round, Ian! And thanks whole-heartedly to Rich Nauman who put these newsletters together for two years, after having his name written-in for the uncontested Secretary position by his many admirers during the 2003 balloting. Write-ins count!

We have another **Election** upon us now. As you read the Nominations section later in this Murreletter, you'll see that I am not running for President this time around. I love SNVB and it has been a fantastic couple of years. It's just a time thing. Like Bilbo Baggins carrying the Ring, I'm feeling stretched, "I feel like butter spread over too much bread." I'm giving up my "precious" but make no doubt about it, I'll be continuing to serve the Society in a myriad of other ways ... I'm not retiring, per se, just going behind the curtain with a host of others!

Society services run the gamut from elected positions, serving as peer reviewer for manuscripts, to annual meeting volunteers. Each service has huge value, and our Society is fortunate to have an extremely active mem-

bership. There are so many folks behind the scenes! One of the most valued parts of being Pres these last two years is to have had the honor to meet and get to know these wonderful people. Many have helped me and the Society progress, by grand strides or wee smidgeons, and all are so appreciated. Thank you all!

One of my last tasks as Pres is helping get the 2005 annual meeting organized. Janet Erickson and Wendy Wentz have been essential to the task, as have many folks of OR TWS, particularly Bruce Campbell, Mark Penninger, Greg Smith, and Dick Schmitz, and others (Kathryn Ronnenberg, PNW; Jamie LeGore, OSU). We have a tremendous meeting planned, and I urge you to clear your calendars the week of **February 22-25!** It's going to be a scientific extravaganza spiced with frolic! Over 100 oral presentations are on the docket. Oh, and don't forget the posters ... the count is not in as I write this, but I'm hearing of a worthy poster session too! This meeting will be one to experience firsthand, and then reminisce about in years to come... "Remember Corvallis in 2005?"

Next year – Olympia, WA!

It's been fun, thank you everyone!

Cheers, Dede

Society for Northwest Vertebrate Biology

*... the oldest scientific association devoted to the study
of terrestrial vertebrates in the Pacific Northwest.*

- Established in 1920.

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Who we are...

The Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology was founded in 1920 as the Pacific Northwest Bird and Mammal Society. Long recognized as the pre-eminent union of ornithologists and mammalogists in the Pacific Northwest, the society adopted its current name in 1988 to reflect an expanded taxonomic scope that included amphibians and reptiles. The scope expanded again in 1999 to include fish. Today the society strives to promote close working relationships among ornithologists, mammalogists, herpetologists, and ichthyologists in our region; foster exchange of scientific information and interest in the study of vertebrates; and offer a forum for these activities through meetings and publications.

Membership

All persons or institutions interested in the study of birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles are eligible for membership. Individual members receive the Northwestern Naturalist and the Murreletter, our newsletter. Other SNVB publications, such as Northwest Fauna, are available at a reduced rate. Other privileges of membership include notification of all meetings of SNVB, power to vote in SNVB meetings and elections, and the privilege of holding office in SNVB.

**For more information or
to become a member:
<http://www.snwvb.org>**

The Murreletter

The Murreletter is published 3 times yearly and is distributed to the members of the Society for Northwest Vertebrate Biology. Submission of stories, meeting announcements and other material of interest to members of the society is encouraged. Submissions should be sent to Murreletter Editor Ian Reid. To receive the Murreletter electronically please provide your current email address to SNVB Treasurer Julie Grialou.

Annual Meeting Updates

Pre-Meeting Workshops

Preregistration is ongoing for two Pre-Meeting Workshops (see meeting registration form on website), and participants can also register the days of the events. The workshops will examine the threat of exotic species and biodiversity, and will be hosted by over 20 regional experts. An additional \$25 will be charged for participation in the Wednesday Plenary Session at 3:30pm, and later events including the Poster Session (5:30pm) and Dance (7pm), which formally open the joint annual meetings of OR TWS and SNVB. Workshop participants are encouraged to stay through Friday for the entire meeting.

Invasive Species Management Workshop Tuesday February 22nd, 8am-3pm and Wednesday February 23rd, 8am-2:30pm

The Invasive Species Workshop will begin with presentations by regional experts on topics including:

Martin Nugent, ODFW, Oregon Invasive Spp. Council
Dan Edge, OSU, Invasive species in Oregon
Peter McEvoy, OSU, Biocontrol
Stephen Phillips, PSMFC, 100th Meridian Initiative
Mandy Tu, TNC, Issues of scale
Paul Heimowitz, USFWS, HACCP
Linda Mazzu, USFS/BLM, USFS EIS
Jimmy Kagan, ORNHIC, Information systems for invasive species
Paul Ringold, EPA, EMAP and invasive species
Mark Krautman, Heritage Seedlings, Oregon Nursery Invasive Species Committee
Nancy Osterbauer, ODA, Sudden Oak Death and related diseases
Colin Gillin, ODFW, West Nile Virus
Bruce Coblenz, OSU, Feral Swine
Jonathan Soll, TNC, Japanese Knotweed
Mark Sytsma, PSU, Nutria management plan
Mike Adams, USGS, Managing bullfrogs in the West
Dan Sherwood, Deschutes Country Weed Board, Weed management in Central Oregon

The workshop will examine how we assess and address the threats to Oregon's wildlife and habitats. The Tuesday session will begin by providing a holistic perspective of the ecological impact and policy challenge of managing invasive species. Box lunches will be provided, followed by presentations on making decisions at relevant spatial scales, invasion policy and

technical transfer, and the economics of invasive species. The Wednesday session will include presentations on pathways of introduction, regional assessment, and the challenges of restoration.

Biodiversity Workshop Wednesday February 23rd, 8am-3pm

The Biodiversity Workshop will begin with presentations by regional experts on selected topics, including:

Jimmy Kagan, Inst. Natural Resources, Information Systems
George Stankey, US Forest Service – PNW, Socio-economics
Bruce Taylor, Defenders of Wildlife, Overview of Biodiversity Issues
Andy Carey, US Forest Service – PNW, Active vs. Passive Management
Bruce Marcot, US Forest Service – PNW, Modeling
Erik Beever, USGS, Monitoring

Following a provided box lunch, the afternoon session will be an open discussion session with the audience and panelists, to further identify the challenges to biodiversity management and critical information needs. This session will open with a summary by Randy Molina of the PNW Biodiversity Initiative, which has been conducting a scoping process in Oregon and Washington for 9 months and intends to focus on product development over the next year.

Topics of biodiversity also will be touched upon during the annual meeting, immediately following this workshop, by both Plenary speakers and contributed papers.

Plenary Speakers

Andrew B. Carey

Andy has a BS in Forestry & Wildlife and an MS in Wildlife Management from Virginia Tech, an MS in Organization Development from Central Washington University, and a PhD in Zoology and Entomology from Colorado State University. During his diverse career he has investigated the ecology of human pathogens in the wild (rabies, Colorado tick fever, Lyme disease), and held positions as nationwide staff wildlife biologist for the US Air Force and Chief Research

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Biologist and Leader of the Ecological Foundations of Biodiversity Research Team at the PNW Research Station. While at PNW he has played a key role in old growth and spotted owl research, and studied active management of second-growth forests for multiple values. He recently retired, but remains active as an emeritus scientist, consultant, speaker, and affiliate Professor of Ecosystem Science at University of Washington. His presentation is titled: *AIMing for ecological function: evaluation with society for ecological restoration criteria*.

A. Ross Kiester

Ross grew up in southern California in the days when it was wonderful to be interested in herpetology. He received his BA in Zoology from the University of California at Berkeley and his PhD in Biology at Harvard University where he was also a Junior Fellow. He taught at the University of Chicago and Tulane University before joining the research branch of the US Forest Service. He is currently a Mathematical Statistician at the Wenatchee Forestry Sciences Laboratory. His work has included ecology, biogeography and evolutionary biology with an emphasis on herpetology, philosophy of science, and biodiversity policy. He has worked extensively with the Biodiversity Research Consortium. His current research interests include uncertainty in natural resources policy, land use history of the Oregon Coast Range, and global turtle conservation. He will present: *Two concepts of space in the policy analysis of biodiversity*.

Meeting Presentation Sessions**Wednesday, 23 February, 3:30-5:00 pm**

Plenary Session

Thursday 24 February, 8:00 am -noon**(concurrent sessions)**

Avian Ecology 1

Planning at all Scales

Biodiversity

New Survey and Modeling Techniques

Amphibian Ecology 1

Thursday 24 February, 1:30 –5:30 pm**(concurrent sessions)**

Avian Ecology 2

Herpetofauna Ecology

Transportation and Passage Issues

Fire

Shrub Steppe

Friday 25 February, 8:30 am -noon**(concurrent sessions)**

Large Mammals

Herp Habitat Management and Conservation

Forum-Public Input to Wildlife Policy Decisions

Local Views of Global Issues

Friday 25 February, 1:30 –3:30 pm**(concurrent sessions)**

Avian Ecology 3

Small Mammals

Amphibian Ecology 2

Open/Education

Please note there are papers on specific taxa in sessions with a topical name (e.g., papers on herps also occur in Shrub Steppe, Fire, Biodiversity, Survey/Modeling Techniques and Local Views sessions!). There are 5 minutes between each talk so you can switch rooms, and rooms are all close by each other.

The full schedule of presentations is posted on the web at www.snwvb.org/sessions122904.pdf.

Post-Meeting Field Trips**Saturday 26 February****Amphibian Field Trip, Mary's Peak Area**

Pending weather and interest, we hope to see pond, stream, and terrestrial amphibians in the Oregon Coast Range. Contact Doug DeGross at ddegross@usgs.gov

Oak/Prairie Restoration, Findley NWR

Examples of habitat restoration and wetland birds.

Contact Richard Schmitz at

Richard.schmitz@oregonstate.edu

Lodging

Several hotels are available to meeting attendees at federal/state per diem rates, but only a limited number of rooms will be reserved at these rates, so early reservations are encouraged:

Corvallis Hilton Garden Inn, (541) 752-5000, Across parking lot from conference facilities. \$55/night with government ID, \$89/without.

Holiday Inn Express, (541)752-0800, 2nd Street, two miles from conference. \$55/night with government ID, \$75/night without.

Salbasteon Suites, (541) 753-4320, 9th Street, two miles from conference. \$60/night, one person or \$75/night, two people with government ID, \$75/night one person without, \$79/night, two people without.

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Super 8, (541) 758-8088, 2nd Street, two miles from conference. Conference rates (must mention that you are attending the TWS/SNVB Conference at OSU) \$54.90(includes taxes)/night for one bed, \$62.60/night (includes taxes) for two beds.

Another convenient and affordable option is to reserve a **residence hall room at OSU**. These are within walking distance of the meeting facilities.

Single Room: \$25.50/night

Double Room: \$18.50/night per person

See Residence Hall Reservation Form on Page 7 (Must be received by 7 February)

Annual Meeting Accessories

SNVB will soon be ordering mugs and t-shirts with the annual meeting spiral logo. Mugs will be 11 oz. and almond, while t-shirts will be long-sleeved and "cactus green" (khaki). Prices are not finalized but will be quite reasonable! If you would like to reserve a t-shirt in your size, please email Kathryn Ronnenberg: kronnenberg@fs.fed.us. *Please consider purchasing a mug or bringing one from home to reduce paper use during coffee breaks.*

Banquet Speaker

Joel Berger will be presenting during the Wednesday evening banquet on **ecological consequences of carnivore loss, maintenance, and restoration**. He is a Senior Scientist for the Wildlife Conservation Society and has previously worked at the Smithsonian Institution and taught at the University of Nevada, Reno.

SNVB Elections

Elections for many SNVB positions will occur in early 2005. Members of SNVB will be able to cast their ballots at the Annual Meeting in Corvallis or electronically at the SNVB website in February.

Candidates

President: Jeff Lewis

Jeff has been a SNVB member for 9 years, a board member from 1997-2000, and an associate editor for mammals for the *Northwestern Naturalist* since 2000. He is a wildlife biologist with the Wildlife Diversity Division of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. He currently works on ecoregional conservation assessments in collaboration with The Nature

Conservancy, and is also involved with the feasibility and planning aspects of a proposed fisher reintroduction in Washington. Jeff received a BS in Forest Biology from the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and an MS in Wildlife Biology at Humboldt State University, where he studied the dispersal of non-native red foxes in urban southern California. Since graduate school, he has worked on research and conservation projects with fishers, northern spotted owls, western pond turtles, western gray squirrels, Oregon spotted frogs, California least terns, red foxes, black-tailed deer and dusky Canada geese. He enjoys being a part of SNVB because of its role as a scientific organization, its history, and the opportunity to interact with a remarkable group of people. Jeff feels it would be an honor to serve as President and to follow in the footsteps of Larry, Greg, Bill, and Dede.

Washington VP: Marc Hayes

Marc has spent nearly all his 30-year career working on amphibian and reptiles, the last 13 in the Northwest, with previous time spent mostly in California, Costa Rica, Florida, and Oregon. His first love is ranid frog ecology, and understanding their seasonal movement patterns is his favorite topic. His current position as Forests and Fish adaptive management research coordinator with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has let him explore landscape ecology, especially of stream-associated amphibians. He is also involved as a volunteer Affiliate Curator for the Burke Museum, where he reorganizes old herpetological collections of significant historic value. Marc looks forward to running for SNVB Washington Vice-President because annual meeting responsibility falls to the VP of the state in which the meeting is being held. As the 2006 meeting will be held in Olympia, he is particularly excited about playing a central role in organizing this meeting as he has just come off organizing the biannual All Hands Meeting for WDFW that has given him highly focused experience in meeting organization. He also believes that opportunities exist for SNVB to foray more into education for the elementary and high school population who may someday develop a professional interest and join SNVB.

Inland VP: Bryce Maxwell

Bryce grew up in the Uintah Mountains of Utah where he spent his childhood dogsledding, hiking, and camping. Bryce received Bachelors degrees from the University of Puget Sound in Biology and Economics and studied subtidal seaweeds. He spent a year in Australia and New Zealand on a Watson Fellowship,

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studying the management of flora and fauna. For the past 8 years he has been studying amphibians, reptiles, and other vertebrates and invertebrates in Montana while working his way through grad school. Bryce is currently in the process of finishing his dissertation on the demography and landscape ecology of Columbia spotted frogs and was recently hired as the Senior Zoologist at the Montana Natural Heritage Program. His main interests are natural history, conservation biology, biogeography, and the effects of exotic species. Bryce is interested in conducting broad based, statistically sound, baseline surveys for, and applying advanced techniques in conservation biology to, a wide variety of non-game taxa. Although he is interested in working with all taxa, he is especially interested in working with amphibians, reptiles, mollusks, bats, and birds. As the VP for the Inland Region, Bryce would work to build membership in the Inland Region and stronger connections between biologists and managers encountering similar issues with coastal sister taxa.

Secretary: Tara Chestnut

Tara is a fish and wildlife biologist, currently working for the Washington State Department of Transportation in their Biology Program. Specializing in Pacific Northwest ecology, she has worked throughout the West studying amphibians, reptiles, birds of prey, songbirds, sea birds, marine mammals, small mammals, invertebrates and vegetation communities. She was introduced to SNVB in an undergraduate mammalogy course at The Evergreen State College. Tara attended her first SNVB meeting in 1996 and presented her senior thesis on habitat associations of wintering birds of prey at the 1997 annual meeting. She continued to be involved with SNVB, first as a volunteer assisting with annual meeting organization, and then as a Trustee in 2002. Tara finished her masters in 2004, investigating mate selection of western toads at Mount St. Helens. As a board member, Tara spearheaded the student scholarship program and is the chair of the scholarship committee. Maggie, Tara's border collie, has been to all of the annual meetings Tara has attended.

Trustee: Hannah Anderson

Hannah is currently a graduate student at The Evergreen State College, in Olympia, WA. She has nearly completed her Masters of Environmental Studies, with a focus in wildlife biology within the context of forest and landscape ecology. Her thesis topic addresses questions regarding the nest predation of the streaked

horned lark, a grassland nesting bird found in remnant Puget prairies. Hannah earned a Bachelors in biological anthropology from the University of Washington, where she studied human origin, primatology, and ethology. Her professional field experience ranges from primate studies abroad to local bird projects. She is an experienced field researcher and has worked with several non-profit environmental groups in the Puget Sound. She is the head of operations for the International Canopy Network, a locally based non-profit group dedicated to the dissemination of forest canopy related information to researchers and others, and maintenance of connections with those interested in the forest canopy. Hannah also works for the Washington Department of Natural Resources in the Natural Areas Program. Her duties include avian field observations, data management and spatial data analysis. She attended the 2004 annual meeting and was impressed by the SNVB. Hannah would like very much to become part of the society and have a more active role with other biologists in the Northwest.

Trustee: Aimee McIntyre

Aimee earned a BA in Biology at Lewis and Clark College in 1998. She has 7 years experience with amphibian field research in the Pacific Northwest. In 2004 Aimee earned an MS degree in Wildlife Science at Oregon State University that focused on the habitat associations and movement patterns of the Van Dyke's salamander. At OSU, she co-founded and acted as co-president of the Fisheries and Wildlife Graduate Student Association (FWGSA), a group designed to facilitate communication and collaboration among students, professors, and professionals. During this time, Aimee was also a graduate representative for the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, whose role was to act on behalf of graduates in the department. Aimee currently works as a wildlife biologist in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Program. Her focal duties involve coordination and implementation of a landscape-scale manipulative study. As coordinator for this position, she communicates and facilitates working relationships between federal, state, and private landowners. In the Trustee position Aimee hopes to utilize the skills she has developed during her schooling and employment to promote communication and collaboration within and outside the SNVB community. She looks forward to the potential opportunity to become more involved in SNVB, working with the folks involved in planning the annual meeting, and promoting the goals of the society.

Upcoming Events

These events share similar themes or build on ideas presented at the 2005 SNVB/TWS Annual Meeting:

The Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be holding their annual conference in Corvallis on the Oregon State University campus **February 15-18, 2005**. This year's theme is "*Multidisciplinary and Innovative Approaches to Aquatic Resource Conservation*". For more information visit the Chapter website at <http://orafs.org/meetings.htm>

Oregon Sea Grant and the Hatfield Marine Science Visitor Center are pleased to announce the opening of their latest exhibit, "Invasion of the Habitat Snatchers" We invite you to join us at the opening from 10am-2pm on **February 26, 2005** for talks, displays, and viewing of this new exciting exhibit. The exhibit includes information about aquatic invaders that threaten the Pacific Northwest, introduction pathways, and control methods. Visitors can get a close-up view of ballast water "hitchhikers," learn about invasion risks at "The Wheel of Misfortune," or take on the role of an aquatic invader in an interactive survival game. Hatfield Marine Science Center is located on SE Marine Drive in Newport, Oregon, approximately 1 hour west of Corvallis. To learn more about the exhibit and associated programs, contact: Jon Luke, Oregon Sea Grant Program Associate 541-867-0357 or jon.luke@oregonstate.edu

A Conference on Science and the Northwest Forest Plan: Knowledge Gained Over a Decade **April 19 – 20, 2005** at the Doubletree Hotel Jantzen Beach, Portland, Oregon. This 2-day conference will be convened to develop awareness and understanding of science information from the Northwest Forest Plan monitoring programs, describe advances in the state of knowledge over the last decade, and explore policy and management implications of these findings. For more information, please go to this webpage: <http://outreach.cof.orst.edu/nwforestplan/index.php> or contact Oregon State University, College of Forestry, Outreach Education Office, (541) 737-2329.



**Reservation for OSU Residence Hall Rooms
(Must be received by 7 February 2005)**

Please fill out, include payment, and return this form to:
Marie Morin, 4920 SE 140th Ave., Portland, OR 97236.

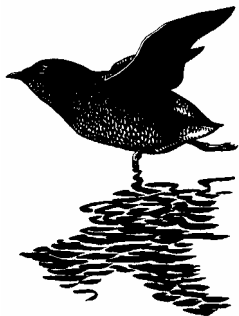
Name: _____ Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone - Office: _____ Home: _____ E-mail: _____

| | | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| Single Room | \$25.50 | X | nights | \$ |
| Double Room | \$18.50 | X | nights | \$ |
| | | | | Total: \$ |
| Please check one if interested in sharing a room. | | Female | | Male |

VISA/MASTER CARD or checks accepted. Make Checks payable to Oregon Chapter, TWS
 Account No. _____ Expiration Date _____
 Signature _____ Date _____



For more information about the
Society for Northwest Vertebrate Biology
Check out our updated web page:
<http://www.snwvb.org>

Don't Forget These Dates

SNVB Annual Meeting: Managing Ecological Complexity

February 22-25, 2004

Meeting Early Registration Due: January 22

See page 3 for more information