



# *The Murreletter*

Society for Northwestern  
Vertebrate Biology

Volume 15, No. 1

August 2007

## **President's Message**

It is with great enthusiasm and pride that I step up to a legacy and tradition that has graced northwestern North America for 88 years. In the first of at least six of these messages to you, I thought it would be helpful to share with you my history with the organization, my involvement on the board, and how I came to be in this position (even though in an uncontested election it only takes one vote!). Through this, I hope to inspire your involvement with the organization, give you ideas to involve your students or employees in SNVB, and encourage you to join a committee, or maybe even organize a workshop or symposium.

I've had the privilege of working on the board with the last four SNVB presidents, largely planning the annual meeting and symposia. The SNVB was introduced to me as an undergraduate student, in fact, membership was a requirement for a mammalogy course I took in 1995. I attended my first meeting in 1996 and it was evident that SNVB members were clearly my people! Shortly after the 1997 annual meeting, Larry and Janet Jones roped me in to volunteering with sundry tasks planning the next meeting in Olympia, and then in Ashland, and so on. They convinced me to organize a workshop on small mammal research techniques (which I did mostly because I wanted to attend the workshop), and coordinate meeting photo & art contests, socials and entertainment. Bill Leonard, one of two people responsible for introducing me to PNW herps, recruited me to serve on the SNVB board in 2002. And here I've been ever since. Through joint meeting ventures with other regional scientific organizations, I have learned a great deal about leadership and problem-solving from our last two presidents, Dede Olson and Jeff Lewis. It was Jeff's encouragement that led me to run for the president position he was vacating.

For those who know me reasonably well, you know that my lil' antennae are constantly sampling the environment around me. I am an idea-girl. I constantly (and often without realizing I am doing it) network and look for ways to connect people with resources. SNVB provides opportunities for members to communicate and network both formally and informally via

our annual meeting, journal and newsletter. Board meetings are another opportunity to connect our members with resources. For instance, this is how I spearheaded the SNVB student scholarship program, through a discussion and brainstorming session on how we can provide new opportunities to our members and encourage student involvement. The scholarship program is now in its third year and we are evaluating options to offer more scholarships to our members.

SNVB is increasingly successful in offering high-quality meetings and publications. Our membership continues to grow and the caliber of invited speakers reflects the respect others have for our organization. Our flagship publication, *Northwestern Naturalist*, is SNVB's primary exposure to the scientific community. It is the first invitation of sorts to become a member or attend our annual meeting. I am proud to see the path that our former editor Burr Betts took to improve the status and visibility of *Northwestern Naturalist*, and I look forward to the direction our new editor Bob Hoffman is taking to continue increasing submission rates, and publishing rigorous papers and important notes.

To satisfy my restless antennae, I've been brainstorming and exploring ways SNVB can continue to grow and excel. In 2006, we began to work on a strategic plan, by outlining our mission, vision and values statements. These statements about ourselves help to define our identity and translate the core pieces of our constitution and bylaws into plain language. The draft statements are included in this issue (see p. 3), and we are soliciting involvement from our membership to get them into final form. The board has also discussed creating an Historian position to ensure our history is well documented and archived. Other ideas include creating a paid Administrator position, developing a more powerful membership database to better track membership trends and explore opportunities to get group health insurance rates. We encourage all of our members to participate, volunteer for committees, brainstorm ideas and consider ways SNVB can work for you. Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the board. I look forward to working closely with you in the next few years.

– *Cheers, Tara*

## Society for Northwestern 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, reptiles, and fishes 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 SNVB meetings, power to vote in SNVB meetings and elections, and participating as a member of the SNVB board.

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

### The Murreletter

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

## SNVB Mission, Vision, and Values

In 2006, the board gathered for a retreat to outline our mission, vision and values. At the moment, the only guiding documents SNVB has are what is legally required, a constitution and bylaws. The mission, vision and values statements are far more informal than the constitution and bylaws, and are certainly not binding, but they are equally as important. They provide members with a sense of identity and direction. The mission, vision and values statements clearly describe what we do, what we want to become, and the traits or qualities we consider worthwhile. The board developed the preliminary draft statements you will find below. If you would like to provide comments and volunteer a few hours on the committee, please let Tara know, tarachestnut@gmail.com. Thanks!

**Mission Statement:** SNVB promotes interest in the study of vertebrates and their associated ecosystems in northwestern North America through communication and education.

**Vision Statement:** As the preeminent society of vertebrate biologists in northwestern North America, SNVB will:

- 1) continually improve access to and dissemination of the most current and credible scientific information
- 2) inform an active and engaged membership
- 3) promote the expansion of our membership to include a large and diverse group of individuals representative of our community at-large

**Values Statement:** SNVB members value rigorous scientific inquiry, open communication, accessible transfer of information, accountability, and last but not least, an active, engaged and long-standing membership.

## Recruiting Future Board Members

The following board positions are up for re-election starting in 2008: Treasurer, Southern VP, Northern VP, Oregon VP, Trustee, and Murreletter Editor. Please contact Tara Chestnut (tarachestnut@gmail.com), the Nomination Committee Chair for volunteer job descriptions if you are interested in running for one of these positions.



*The 2007 Joint Annual Meeting was a mammoth success! See p. 4-6*

## Burr Betts Honored by Oregon Chapter TWS

### David B. Marshall Award

For recognition of an individual for their outstanding contributions and accomplishments in wildlife research, management, education, law enforcement or public service. By advocating sound wildlife stewardship this individual has promoted the advancement of science, the principles of ecology, and the goals of The Wildlife Society. Their actions have resulted in significant contributions in the conservation and increased long-term security of wildlife populations, wildlife habitats, and natural resource values within the state of Oregon.

This year's recipient of the newly named David B. Marshall Award (formerly the Oregon Chapter TWS Award) made the place he chose to live a priority, and designed other aspects of career and personal life accordingly. Teaching biology at a small college in a rural, small town was not likely going to generate large research grants. In spite of these inherent limitations, this person conducted and published solid, peer reviewed research on several wildlife species over a 30+ year career. His research was useful to resource managers and contributed to improved practices on the ground where they count. He researched less charismatic species that were often overlooked by other scientists. American jacanas, barn owls, urban fox squirrels, Columbia ground squirrel, Washington ground squirrel, *Cryptochia* caddisfly, and bats were among his study subjects.

His formal education includes a BS from Purdue University in general biology, and a doctorate from the University of Montana in ethology and ecology, with minors in statistics, computer science and psychology.

His research was worked into an already busy schedule of teaching biology, Vertebrate Structure; Vertebrate Natural History; General Ecology; Mammalogy; Ornithology; and Animal Behavior at then Eastern Oregon State College. For 30 years (1975-2005) he touched the lives of many young people through his love and knowledge of the biological sciences. In his spare time he conducted "bat nights" for his community which increased understanding and respect for these fascinating and often misunderstood creatures.

He has served as editor of the Northwestern Naturalist, the scientific journal of the Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology, from 1997 to 2007. He has multiple scientific publications to his credit in a diverse array of professional journals. These represent a sample of this person's accomplishments. To list them all would require more time than we have allotted tonight.

It is with honor that this year's David B. Marshall Award is presented to Dr. Burr Betts.

## The Annual Meeting Was Victoria-ous!

If you didn't get a chance to make it to Victoria for the annual meeting, I'm sorry to say that you missed a good one. It appears from all angles that the annual joint meeting held in Victoria February 21-24, 2007 in conjunction with the Northwest Scientific Association and Northwest Lichenologists was a huge success. Comments from attendees were very favourable.

The chaos (sorry, I was one of the organizers...) meeting started on Wednesday February 21st with the *Panic, Pandemics, and Poisons Symposium* organized and chaired by Tara Chestnut and the *Graphic Design and Communication Skills for Science Publishing and Presentations Workshop* presented by Kathryn Ronnenberg. The 40+ symposium attendees were impressed by the array of expert presenters: Craig Stephens, Jane Parmley (Avian Flu), Bonnie Henry (West Nile Virus), John Elliott (Birds/Insecticides), Helen Schwantje (Chronic Wasting Disease), Luis Ruedas and Laurie Dizney (Hantavirus), Cherie Briggs (Chytridiomycosis), and Rick Relyea (Glyphosate). Unfortunately, Tyrone Hayes (Atrazine) forgot his passport and didn't make the symposium in time, but that loss was compensated for by his very dynamic and interesting plenary address the following morning, which he ended in a rap about the effects of Atrazine on amphibian populations, the frustration associated with the cautious approach taken by the EPA to investigate such issues, and the need for action. Very inspiring, despite the first of many AV glitches.

The workshop started off with an introductory talk by Nancy Baron, a communications expert. Her workshop talk and subsequent plenary address on Friday morning emphasized the importance of telling a good story to effectively communicate research results. She provided an array of pointers on dealing with the media, and inside tips on how to get on the cover of popular magazines such as *Nature* and *Science* (e.g., it's all about having a good photograph, not the topic of the article).

Attendees got their first of many opportunities to socialize at the Wednesday evening reception when the first of two poster sessions was held and a local youth band called *Njiva Marimba* played their hearts out. I'm pretty sure I saw at least a few booties shaking out there...

The other Thursday morning plenary speaker was Dr. Daniel Simblerloff, who also gave the banquet keynote address. During his plenary address, he spoke about the various approaches taken when dealing with invasive species, emphasizing that there are numerous success stories, and we need to rally on instead of taking a fatalistic approach. At the banquet, he presented his argument that conservation biology should not be seen as a weak scientific discipline due to the approaches that are often required compared to the other sciences (e.g., working on local scales and intensive natural history studies),

and that failure is often the result of other non-scientific factors (e.g., social, political or economic).

Dr. Richard Hebda provided us with our final dynamic plenary address, held Friday morning. His summary of the way British Columbia will look in the next 80 years as a result of climate change was sobering, and reinforced that we need to start planning for it now. His high-tech models (maps), part of an upcoming display at the Royal BC Museum, showed how the climatic conditions for certain species will exist far into the north in 80 years, such as Garry Oak in Haida Gwaii, and southern interior grape-growing conditions in the Peace district (Chateau Fort Nelson!). He argued that we need to support basic ecological research to effectively approach landscape and resource management under these rapidly changing conditions.

In all, there were over 100 presentations during three concurrent sessions on Thursday and Friday, as well as approximately 20 posters on display throughout the meeting. Sessions were as varied as the speakers themselves, covering topics such as wildlife movement issues, geomorphology, marine species at risk, wetland ecology, cryptogams, fire ecology, birds of prey, and species status and listing issues.

As usual, the social highlight of the meeting was the Thursday evening banquet. Numerous awards were distributed that evening, including winners of the photo and art contest and the various society members who have made significant contributions to their respective organizations. The food was excellent and people were entertained with the anticipation of winning one of the great prizes donated to our annual SNVB raffle (which was obviously biased towards blue tickets...). The meeting ended with three field trips offering attendees an opportunity to see a variety of local species and beautiful scenery. Good on those attendees that endured the Saturday wind and rain! I'm sure the expertise and good humour of our local guides made up for the less than perfect weather conditions...

On behalf of the planning committee and the various Societies, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the speakers mentioned above for contributing to such a successful meeting, as well as all of the volunteers. I couldn't have done it without you. Hope to see you all again in the future, maybe in Missoula in 2008 or elsewhere in the Pacific Northwest.

– *Elke Wind*

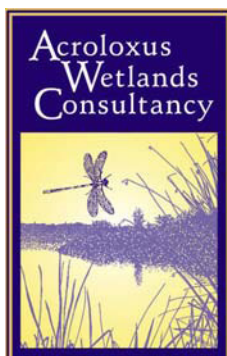
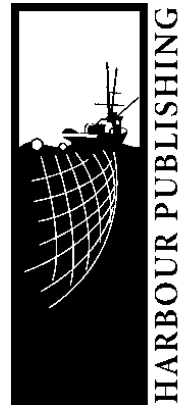




SNVB would like to thank the following  
sponsors of the 2007 Joint Annual Meeting:



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## New T-shirt for All SNVB Occasions

A new SNVB shirt was unveiled at the annual meeting... The design is simple and the colors are outstanding! If we ran out before you were able to snatch one up or you were not at the meeting, they are still available to purchase through the end of October. Shirts are available in women's cut and traditional t-shirt styles with long or short sleeves. They are hand-dyed in bright green, olive green, rust orange, purple, blue, brown or white. Tara is wearing a women's long sleeve in brown. Short sleeve: \$18, Long sleeve: \$22, Sizes: S - XXXL To order, send an email indicating style, color, and size to Tara (tarachestnut@gmail.com) and a check/money order to Julie Grialou, 18304 Highway 20, Winthrop, WA 98862. Pre-payment is required.



SOCIETY FOR NORTHWESTERN  
VERTEBRATE BIOLOGY

|   |              |   |             |   |             |
|---|--------------|---|-------------|---|-------------|
|  | bright green |  | teal blue   |  | rust orange |
|  | olive        |  | blue violet |  | tan/brown   |

## Thanks to the Faithful AV Crew

I would like to acknowledge three people who helped organize and execute the audio-visual component during the 2007 SNVB conference. Dawn McNeil, Tiffany Hicks and Stacey Hrushowy sat through the entire conference, listened intently to each presenter and solved pesky AV issues with ease. Many thanks for your hard work and it was a pleasure working with you all.

- Leigh Anne Isaac,  
AV coordinator



## Best Student Paper and Poster Awards

At the Society's 2007 annual meeting in Victoria, B.C., a panel of 9 members judged best student presentations. Each presentation was attended by two judges and scored on use of visuals, verbal communication, scientific merit, creativity, and overall presentation. We are pleased to announce the winners of this year's best student presentation awards. The honor of Best Student Graduate Paper was awarded to Sylvia Wood for her presentation on the impacts of fine sediments on western toads. Sylvia is a graduate student in the Centre for Applied Conservation Research at the University of British Columbia. John Richardson is a co-author on the paper. The honor of Best Student Undergraduate Paper was awarded to Susan Belmont for her presentation on demography and chytrid infection. Susan is an undergraduate student at Central Washington University. Steven Wagner and Jim Johnson are co-authors on the paper. The honor of Best Student Poster was awarded to Mamie Smith for her poster on habitat of Spalding's catchfly at Garden Creek Ranch. Mamie is a student in the Department of Rangeland Ecology and Management, College of Natural Resources at the University of Idaho. Stephen Bunting is a co-author on the poster. Congratulations! Winning students will receive a year-long student membership to the Society of their choice (either the Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology or Northwest Scientific Association). Thank you to all students who presented a paper or poster at this year's meeting.

I would also like to thank our judges. Judges included: Doug Degross, Robin Leighty, Robin Leshner, Jeff Lewis, Brent Matsuda, Aimee McIntyre, Hans Purdom, Kathryn Ronnenberg, and Alison Styring. Judges will receive a pat on the back and a big smile.

- Aimee McIntyre, WA Vice-President

## 2007 Scholarship Results

Competition for the 2007 SNVB Scholarship was tough this year. We received more applications than ever before from a pool of highly qualified and experienced undergraduate, masters and doctoral students. The scholarship committee (Martin Raphael, Bruce Bury, John Pierce and Alison Styring) were seriously challenged in their task to choose just one recipient and came to a decision just hours before it was announced at the annual meeting. Thank you to the scholarship review committee and all of the applicants.

Adam Sepulveda, a PhD student at the University of Montana, was awarded the scholarship for his work investigating how ecological processes in upper stream reaches affect the coexistence of Idaho Giant Salamanders (*Dicamptodon aterimus*) and salmonid fishes in lower stream reaches in Idaho and Montana headwater streams, and how human disturbance alters these ecological processes. Congratulations, Adam!

## In Memoriam - Theodore Michael (Ted) Davis - 17 November 1946 – 3 August 2007

The herpetological community suffered a great loss with the death of Ted Davis on August 3rd, at the age of 60 years, from cancer. His passion for scientific enquiry, love of nature and wild places, dedication to teaching and learning, and enthusiasm to share his views of the evolution of life on this earth only begin to describe him. His spirit touched so many of us who knew him as a colleague, teacher, student, and friend.

From an early age, Ted had a keen interest in nature. While growing up in Portland, Oregon, in his own words, he spent “every spare moment in the mountains, climbing, birdwatching, or looking for reptiles and amphibians”. As a young boy, he eagerly participated in the Oregon Herpetological Society’s field trips, organized and led by Doc Storm, and diligently – and often successfully – searched for whatever creatures the group were after. In the 1960s he attended the Oregon State University, University of New Mexico, and Portland State University, from where he graduated with a B.S. in biology in 1968. US politics and the Vietnam draft precipitated a hiatus in his academic career, and in 1968 he emigrated to Canada. During the next 18 years, Ted accomplished many feats in mountaineering, boat-building and sailing, developed his skills in and taught Japanese martial arts (Iaido and Kendo, including a two-year stint in Japan), raced in iron-man and other athletic events, and ran his own tree-planting company. His efforts resulted in improvements to seedling handling and transport and other tree-planting practices in British Columbia and in a legal requirement to notify workers of pesticide residues on planting stocks. Throughout his life, he remained an avid climber and continued practicing and teaching martial arts. His many accomplishments, past and recent, continue to astonish those who knew him as a biologist.

In 1986 Ted began graduate studies at the Biology Department, University of Victoria, under Dr. Pat Gregory. I first met Ted at this time as a fellow graduate student, through our common interest in the rather esoteric pursuit to understand the intricacies of plethodontid salamander behaviour. From the very beginning I was impressed with Ted’s passion for evolutionary biology and logical thinking, his wit and eloquence, and his sharp analytical abilities. Over the next 20 years we were to collaborate on many research, consulting, and teaching projects and became lifelong friends. In later years, when teaching consumed much of his professional life, I could always pick up the phone and count on Ted to provide an astute and succinct analysis of any particularly difficult scientific problem that puzzled me, whether related to conservation, management, study design, or conceptual issues. I know that many of his other colleagues similarly valued and respected his opinions and professional assessment.

Ted received his M.Sc. degree in 1991 and Ph.D. in 1996 from the University of Victoria. His M.Sc. thesis dealt with the



natural history of the Wandering Salamander, *Aneides vagrans* (then known as *A. ferreus*), a species with an unusual, disjunct distribution pattern with populations on Vancouver Island and northern California. At the time, very little was known of the Vancouver Island population, and Ted’s efforts elucidated patterns of distribution and abundance, population dynamics, habitat use, agonistic behaviour, and interspecific interactions of these salamanders. To this day, his thesis remains the most comprehensive and authoritative account of the species. For his PhD dissertation, Ted continued to unravel the mysteries of plethodontid salamander ecology, again under Pat Gregory. As part of this study, he surveyed all accessible lowland old growth forest stands on the east coast of Vancouver Island. Ever the astute observer, he became intrigued by the behaviour of the numerous people who helped with the surveys and calculated search success for individual observers as a function of prior experience and fatigue factor. Also as part of this study, he constructed large salamander-proof experimental enclosures in the forest – not an easy task, as anyone familiar with the gnarled tangles of the old growth forest floor on the west coast can testify – and designed and constructed intricate, layered cover-boards for sampling salamanders. The speculation in Pat’s lab was that Ted might be aiming for a degree in carpentry, in addition to biology. Fellers and Frost (1994) adopted Ted’s boards as a standard method for sampling salamanders and referred to them as Davis boards. Ever since, we also adopted this term for the boards, which by now were distributed almost as widely as *Aneides vagrans* on Vancouver Island – but used it somewhat tongue-in-cheek and sometimes in frustration, as carrying full-sized Davis boards any distance into the woods





was no easy feat to those of us who were never meant to be iron-men! From 1996 to 1999 Ted remained at the UVic Biology Department as a post-doctoral fellow, studying the natural history, forestry interactions, and conservation of the Western Toad, *Bufo boreas*.

During the latter half of the 1990s, Ted taught courses in ecology, evolution, and conservation biology at the University of Victoria. He developed a distance education course on conservation biology for the Department of Environmental Sciences and taught this course for many years, for students on and off campus. He started teaching at Camosun College, Victoria, in 2000 and taught both in the Biology and the Environmental Technology Departments. As with his research, Ted whole-heartedly applied his skills, dedication, and spirit of scientific enquiry to teaching, sharing his enthusiasm for evolutionary biology and nature with his students. His courses were demanding but provided ample rewards to those who were willing to make the effort. He inspired several students to conduct their course projects on amphibians and provided opportunities for interested students to participate in the amphibian research and conservation studies in which he was involved. These projects included a long-term monitoring project for toads, which he helped develop for the BC Ministry of Environment. He incorporated an amphibian day to the annual spring camp of Camosun College, introducing students of the Environmental Technology Program to the scientific study of amphibians.

Last June, Ted was diagnosed with an unusual form of B-cell lymphoma with mutations at two loci, and the prognosis was poor. Ted faced this new phase in his life, and later his impending death, with stoic acceptance, with an iron will and with clarity of mind, and maintained his sense of humour to the very end. There is a wonderful photo of him sitting in his hospital bed, perusing Guyton & Hall's Textbook of Medical

Physiology, characteristically wanting to find out all he could about the neurobiology of his condition (he was delighted to come across a paragraph that explained the mechanism of *Taricha* toxin!). He died at home barely two months after the diagnosis of his illness, surrounded by the people who meant the most to him: his partner Colleen, his daughter Logan, his sister Sue, and his long-time friend and mother of his daughter, Jeannine. Ted was deeply committed to his family and friends, and his climbing partners attest that he was the kind of rope-partner to whom you could trust your life with no hesitation. I feel extremely privileged to have worked with him and to have known him as a friend.

Ted's family has created the Ted Davis Endowment Fund as a tribute to his memory. Contributions can be made through Camosun College Foundation (4461 Interurban Road, Victoria, BC V9E 2C1; tel: (250) 370-4233. 397180).

This article was originally written for the Bulletin of the Canadian Association of Herpetologists (CAH). A list of publications by Ted Davis is presented in that version of the article. Jeannine Caldbeck provided information, particularly on Ted's past exploits, for this article.

– Kristiina Ovaska

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### Chytrid Conference Looms Ominously

A symposium on "Amphibian Declines and Chytridiomycosis: Translating Science into Urgent Action" will occur 5-7 November 2007 in Tempe, Arizona. For more information, please visit the PARC website ([http://www.parcplace.org/Bd\\_conference.html](http://www.parcplace.org/Bd_conference.html)) or contact Dede Olson ([dedeolson@fs.fed.us](mailto:dedeolson@fs.fed.us))

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### Call for Data:

#### Amphibian Chytrid Fungus Locations

One year ago we started mapping the occurrence of amphibian chytridiomycosis (Bd) in the Northwest, and now this effort has turned global! In anticipation of an international Bd meeting in November to forge new directions for science and management, we are now mapping locations of Bd worldwide. In order to get a better idea of the global scope of the problem, we have expanded our data collection to include sites where Bd was and was not detected, where it appeared to cause mortality and where not, and in both native and non-native species (captive or in the wild). Because results are not ready to be released for many studies, we are also interested in knowing locations of ongoing work. If you are working on this issue and have information to contribute, please let us know! Dede Olson ([dedeolson@fs.fed.us](mailto:dedeolson@fs.fed.us))



## Message from the Editor of Northwestern Naturalist

My first experience with SNVB was in the mid-1990s at an annual meeting in Astoria, Oregon. The meeting was attended by about 70 people, and I remember the enthusiasm, creative energy, and commitment the participants expressed for their respective critters and research, and for SNVB. I remember thinking that I should join SNVB and get involved. However, I had never really been a joiner and so I let it all slide and time passed. In 2002, I think it was Doug Degross who asked me if I would consider becoming an Associate Editor for Northwestern Naturalist. I thought about Doug's request for a couple of days, decided I had procrastinated long enough, and committed to signing on as one of the journal's AEs. Since then I have had the opportunity of working with Burr Betts (Editor-extraordinaire) whose dedication to publishing a quality peer-reviewed journal and encouragement inspired me to make a solid commitment to the journal and SNVB. Then in late-fall of 2006, I was surprised to hear that Burr, after 9 years as Editor, wanted to retire. Even more surprising was that he suggested that I think of becoming Editor. I was excited about the prospect of being Editor and asked Burr a lot of questions about responsibilities, time requirements, and level of commitment. He provided me with encouraging answers and helpful straight-forward guidance. I started thinking I can do this, which morphed into I want to do this, and then to I think this is going to be fun. And so I am into my 3rd month as Editor, I'm having fun, and I am excited about continuing Burr's legacy of quality and commitment. It is a privilege to be a part of and to be able to contribute to SNVB.

I also want to inform everyone about two changes related to the journal. First, page charges will increase from \$60 to \$70/page starting with the winter 2007 issue (Volume 88 Number 3). Remember, SNVB members without external support for page charges can still apply for a partial or full waiver of the charges. Second, Allen Press, the journal's publisher, will be introducing digital "print-on-demand" reprints in two phases. During Phase 1, ending sometime in April 2007, authors will continue to order reprints using the present method of submitting a hardcopy reprint request for 100-minimum reprints. Phase 2 will begin sometime in April 2007. Reprint orders will be submitted using an online catalog and store front. The benefits of this process include faster order fulfillment, more paper choices, anytime ordering without penalty, and no minimum quantity. The pricing for reprints will probably change but I do not yet have that information. I will provide pricing information when I receive it. Note that PDF versions of articles and notes will still be available. I can be reached at [robert\\_hoffman@usgs.gov](mailto:robert_hoffman@usgs.gov) if anyone has any questions about these changes.

I think that's all the news for now. I want to encourage all SNVB members to consider Northwestern Naturalist as an outlet for publishing the results of their research and observations, and to encourage colleagues to submit their manuscripts as well. Take care, all.

– *Bob Hoffman*

### MONTANA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY and

Save the  
date for  
2008!

SOCIETY FOR NORTHWESTERN VERTEBRATE BIOLOGY

Joint  
Annual  
Meeting

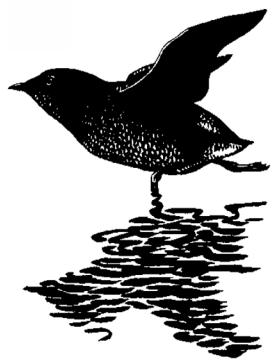
Wednesday February 27 – Friday February 29, 2008  
Holiday Inn Parkside, Missoula, Montana  
with pre-meeting workshops February 25 and 26  
and post-meeting field trips Saturday March 1

### Northwest Connections: Sustaining Our Wildlife Populations in the Face of Climate Change, Human Population Growth, and Energy Demands

#### *Invited/Contributed Sessions may include:*

Climate Change and Pacific Northwest Wildlife  
Maintaining Wildlife Connections in the Face of Development  
Energy Development Impacts on Pacific Northwest Wildlife  
Northwest Faunal Connections – Phylogeography of the Pacific Northwest  
Human Population Growth and Development Trends in the Pacific Northwest  
Vertebrate, Invertebrate and related habitat sessions

The first meeting of the Northwest regional working group of Partners for Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC) will be held prior to the SNVB annual meeting in Missoula, MT, 26-27 February 2008! More info to come in next newsletter.



For more information about the  
**Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology**  
check out our Web site:  
<http://www.snwvb.org>

Save the Date!

MONTANA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY and  
SOCIETY FOR NORTHWESTERN VERTEBRATE BIOLOGY  
Joint Annual Meeting, in Missoula, Montana,  
February 27-29, 2008