

# ON THE WILD SIDE

USDA FOREST SERVICE  
*April 2003*



## **Ducks Unlimited Launches New and Improved Online Conservation Resource**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Laura Houseal; (901) 758-3764; [lhouseal@ducks.org](mailto:lhouseal@ducks.org)

Memphis, TN, March 24, 2003 – Ducks Unlimited has launched a new and improved conservation section on its website at [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org). The new section features more information on wetlands, waterfowl, and DU projects in a more user-friendly format.

“Our hope is that users will find the new conservation section more informative and easier to navigate,” says DU Webmaster, Anthony Jones. “DU is doing a lot of great work for wetland and waterfowl conservation. Hopefully this site will help spread the word about that work and the importance of supporting DU’s habitat conservation mission.”

Among the site’s highlights are 75 new web pages describing DU’s conservation projects, with more to come, plus new interactive maps detailing DU’s conservation initiatives according to region. For those interested in waterfowl identification, the conservation section also features an online waterfowl gallery with descriptions, pictures, and audio recordings of various waterfowl species.

In addition, the revamped section offers new material about wetlands, grasslands, waterfowl biology, governmental affairs, and more. For active waterfowl enthusiasts, the site includes plans for how to build and set up wood duck boxes at home. Log on to [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org) to check out DU’s new online conservation section.

“DU is proud to offer this comprehensive online tool for those interested in Ducks Unlimited, waterfowl, and habitat conservation,” says Don Young, DU’s Executive Vice President. “Not only will this new section prove useful to people wanting to learn more about wetland and waterfowl conservation, it will also prove invaluable to those interested in what DU is doing in their area. With a click of the mouse, people can now find DU projects in their local area and see exactly what DU is doing with our supporter’s donations. And these projects are just the tip of the iceberg. More and more project examples will be added all the time.”

With more than a million supporters, Ducks Unlimited is the world's largest wetlands and waterfowl conservation organization. Since its founding in 1937, DU has raised more than \$1.7 billion to conserve nearly 11 million acres of critical wildlife habitat across North America. Wetlands are nature's most productive ecosystems, but the United States alone has lost more than half of its original wetlands, and continues to lose more than 100,000 wetland acres every year.

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Look for Ducks Unlimited on the World Wide Web at [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org). Tune in to The World of Ducks Unlimited Radio Network, and Ducks Unlimited TV on the Outdoor Life Network (OLN).

## **A Million Acres For Public Hunting and Access**

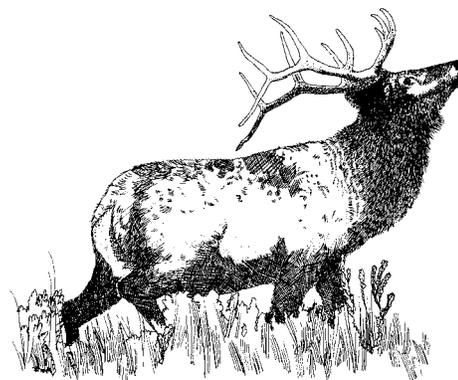
### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Steve Wagner, Communications Director, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; 800-CALL ELK, ext. 542; 406-523-4542; [swagner@rmef.org](mailto:swagner@rmef.org)

### **Elk Foundation reaches seven-digit milestone in permanent protection of habitat for elk and hunters**

MISSOULA, Mont.--The first million is always the hardest, or so it's said when referring to earning money. But the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, still just a teen in its 18th year, already has reached its first million in terms of acres permanently protected for elk and hunters.

The organization has always emphasized permanent protection of elk habitat. Through land gifts, conservation easements and purchases from willing sellers, the Elk Foundation and its partners quickly built a long list of properties acquired and conveyed to the state or federal agencies best equipped to keep wildlife managed, resources properly utilized, and lands maintained for all who visit wild places. In 2002, another 169,269 acres were added to the lifetime total of permanently protected habitat, passing the 1.2 million-acre mark. Within that total, 80 percent--now more than 1 million acres--is elk habitat that's also open for public access.



"Access is one of the most important issues for the future of hunting. It's especially gratifying for us to reach the million-acre mark during our "Pass It On" campaign, when our volunteers, supporters and partners are so focused on leaving a legacy for tomorrow's conservationists," said David Ledford, the Elk Foundation's senior vice president of land and conservation programs.

Ledford added that only 20 percent of the Elk Foundation's permanently protected acres are private lands closed to public access. "And those parcels are generally crucial wintering areas that don't hold elk during hunting seasons anyway. But they are very important for ensuring that more elk survive winter and return in good condition to the high country next spring," he said.

Now that the first million acres of public access is under its belt, Ledford said he hopes that many more millions can be protected, enhanced, and permanently opened.

For a full news release, go to: [http://www.elkfoundation.org/press\\_releases.php3?articleid=189](http://www.elkfoundation.org/press_releases.php3?articleid=189).

## **National Wild Turkey Federation's Energy for Wildlife Program Certifies Partners**

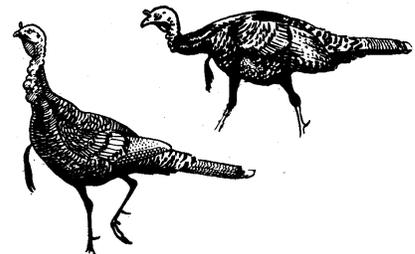
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**—March 25, 2003

**Contact:** James Powell or Jonathan Harling, 803-637-3106.

The National Wild Turkey Federation's Energy for Wildlife program announced another electrifying milestone with the certification of its first two members.

The certification of Central Vermont Public Service of Rutland, Vt., and South Central Indiana REMC of Martinsville, Ind., came during the NWTF's 27th Annual Convention and Sport Show, held Feb. 13-16, in Nashville, Tenn.

"The certification of Central Vermont Public Service and South Central Indiana REMC shows the commitment that these utility companies have made to benefit wildlife while providing safe, reliable and affordable energy to their customers," said Jay Jordan, NWTF's Energy for Wildlife Coordinator.



To become certified, a company is required to write and implement a habitat improvement plan. Habitat improvement projects implemented by the two companies include:

1) Partnering with local groups to plant crabapple orchards along transmission rights-of-way to improve wildlife habitat; and 2) Initiating a program with state and university agencies to inventory threatened or endangered species along rights-of-way to determine if any changes in management are needed.

The certification presentations were made during the NWTF's Technical Committee meeting, which was attended by U.S. Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth, Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Bruce Knight and other leaders in conservation.

Energy for Wildlife is a membership-based certification program for all energy companies with the primary goal of enhancing wildlife habitat on company managed, owned or influenced lands, including power line and gas rights-of-ways, plant sites, forestlands or other properties.

Energy for Wildlife was created by the NWTF in response to the utility industry's need for assistance in managing the millions of acres of rights-of-way and other land that could potentially provide ideal habitat for a number of wildlife species.

Managing openings can provide beneficial habitat for many plant and wildlife species, including wild turkeys. Several species that are currently at risk due to loss of open habitat could also benefit from the program.

NWTF's Energy for Wildlife program staff worked directly with these energy companies to integrate wildlife management activities into their land management programs. The participating companies implemented the wildlife component of their management plans to become certified members of the program.

Any company that is involved in the production, transmission, or distribution of energy is eligible to become a member of the Energy for Wildlife program.

*For more information about the NWTF's Energy for Wildlife program or other NWTF programs call 1-800-THE-NWTF or e-mail Jay Jordan at [jjordan@nwtf.net](mailto:jjordan@nwtf.net).*

*About the NWTF: In 1973 when the National Wild Turkey Federation was founded, there were an estimated 1.3 million wild turkeys and 1.5 million turkey hunters. Thanks to the work of wildlife agencies and the NWTF's many volunteers and partners, today there are an estimated 5.6 million wild turkeys and approximately 2.6 million turkey hunters. Since 1985, more than \$168 million NWTF and cooperator dollars have been spent on over 22,000 projects benefiting wild turkeys throughout North America.*

*The NWTF is a 450,000-member grassroots, nonprofit organization with members in 50 states, Canada and 11 foreign countries. It supports scientific wildlife management on public, private and corporate lands as well as wild turkey hunting as a traditional North American sport.*

*For more information on the National Wild Turkey Federation, call (803) 637-3106. Check out our web site at [www.nwtf.org](http://www.nwtf.org) or e-mail questions to [nwtf@nwtf.net](mailto:nwtf@nwtf.net).*

## **Workshop on Options to Provide for Diversity of Plant and Animal Communities in Land and Resource Management Planning**

On February 18-20, 2003, 100 people participated in a USDA Forest Service Workshop on Options to Provide for Diversity of Plant and Animal Communities in Land and Resource Management Planning. The workshop, held at the National Conference Center in Lansdowne, Virginia, was conducted during the formal comment period on the Forest Service's proposed rule to revise the land and resource management planning process for the National Forest System. Participants were selected through an open public nominations process and by special invitation. Participants represented a broad cross section of stakeholder groups, including people with scientific expertise and practical experience with the forest planning process.

As part of the December 6, 2002 Proposed Rule, the agency outlined two options to fulfill the statutory requirement of the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) that forest plans provide for the diversity of plant and animal communities consistent with the multiple-use objectives of the land and resource management plan. The purpose of the workshop was to obtain high quality and focused input from a diverse, balanced, and knowledgeable group of stakeholders on:

- scientifically sound and practical forest planning approaches to implementing this statutory requirement;
- strengths and weaknesses, and suggestions for how to improve upon, the two options outlined in the Proposed Rule to implement this statutory requirement; and
- any additional options to implementing this statutory requirement.

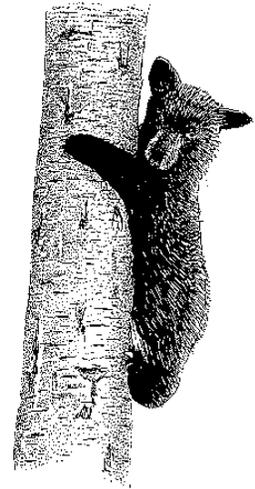
The Meridian Institute assisted the USDA Forest Service in convening the workshop and served as the workshop facilitator.

The *Diversity Options Workshop Summary Report* (along with a series of appendices) is now available on-line at <http://www.fs.fed.us/emc/nfma/index4.html>.

## **Fifteenth International Conference on Bear Research and Management Call For Papers—February 8-13, 2004, San Diego, California**

The International Association for Bear Research and Management (IBA) is a non-profit tax-exempt volunteer organization open to professional biologists, wildlife managers and others dedicated to the conservation of all species of bears. The organization consists of several hundred members from over 20 countries. It supports the scientific management of bears through research and distribution of information.

The IBA sponsors international conferences on all aspects of bear biology, ecology, and management approximately 2 out of every 3 years. These conferences alternate between venues in the Americas and in Eurasia. Papers accepted for presentation at each conference are considered for publication as peer-reviewed scientific papers in *Ursus*. This annual journal is also open to non-conference submissions of high scientific merit (see [Ursus](#)).



Preparations are now taking place for the IBA's Fifteenth International Conference on Bear Research and Management to take place in San Diego, California, USA. Rooms have been reserved at the [Bahia Resort Hotel](#) in San Diego. Tentatively scheduled excursions include: San Diego Zoo, Balboa Park, Sea World, Disneyland, fishing trip, pelagic birding trip, and a trip to the Mojave Desert.

### **Preliminary Topics:**

- Bear/ Human Conflicts
- Field/Lab/Statistical Techniques
- Habitat Assessment/Relationships
- Genetics/Physiology
- Conservation Biology

### **Presentation Types:**

1. Oral Presentation (15 minute speech and 5 minutes for questions, paper intended for publication in URSUS)
2. Poster paper intended for publication in URSUS
3. Poster paper not intended for publication in URSUS

4. Invited Speakers (25 minute speech and 5 minutes for questions)

**How to Submit an Abstract:**

English summaries of one page should be sent in WORD format on either a 3.5 inch disk, CD or as an attachment to an e-mail (ASCII format copy in the e-mail message is acceptable). List all authors and affiliations as well as present address, phone number, fax number and e-mail address. Please indicate whether the summary is for a paper for presentation or a poster. Please submit summaries to:

Doug Updike, California Department of Fish and Game, 1812 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 USA; Phone: (916) 445-3652; Fax: (916) 445-4048; Email: [DUpdike@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:DUpdike@dfg.ca.gov)

For papers intended for publication in URSUS early submission is encouraged as the review process is separate from that of the Conference. Abstracts should be submitted to Doug Updike at the address or email above. Complete papers should be submitted to the editor of URSUS at:

Rich Harris, Editor URSUS, 218 Evans, Missoula, Montana, USA 59801; Fax: (406)-542-6399; Email: [rharris@montana.com](mailto:rharris@montana.com).

For more information on URSUS please visit the home page: <http://www.ursusjournal.com/>

**Guidelines for Presentations:**

Selected presentations will have 15 minutes for their presentation and 3-5 minutes for questions. Slide projectors and LCD projectors will be provided. If you choose to use a slide projector please bring your own slide carousel and label it with last name and title of talk. LCD presentations must be made using Power Point software, please copy your presentation onto a CD-R (not CD-RW) that is labeled with last name and title of the talk. Please give your CD to the authorized person no later than the day before the presentation to make sure everything works properly.

**Deadline for Summaries is:** September 15, 2003 (Early submissions are encouraged)

**2002 TAKING WING AWARD RECIPIENTS**

It is with great pleasure that we announce the **2002 TAKING WING Awards**. All nominations exhibited strong community and partner involvement and made significant contributions to the land, people, and migratory birds. Additionally, all nominated projects spanned boundaries to reach diverse groups of people and identify common interests.

We thank the **TAKING WING Awards Committee** for reviewing the nominations and recommending award recipients. The committee facilitated partner review of award nominations for the past nine years. Partner involvement in this selection process greatly increases both the prestige of these awards and the recognition of our work in the conservation community.



TAKING WING awards were presented at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Winston-Salem,

North Carolina. Congratulations to the 2002 TAKING WING Award recipients for a job well done! Descriptions of this year's award-winning projects follows.

**CATEGORY: Habitat**

**PROJECT: Shagpoke-Red  
Shoulder Wetland Restoration**

Working in cooperation with Ducks Unlimited and the Michigan Wildlife Habitat Foundation, Forest Service employees on the Huron-Manistee National Forests completed wetland habitat restoration projects benefiting numerous migrating shorebirds, waterfowl and other wildlife species. Project objectives were to provide consistent wetland habitats in areas that were previously undependable intermittent wetlands. Construction of impoundments that allow water levels to be manipulated through partial or full drawdowns ensures that wetland habitats are available for migratory birds on a consistent basis.

The Shagpoke wetland restoration project created a 24-acre shallow marsh using an earthen dam with a water control system. The Red Shoulder Complex wetland restoration project provided approximately 77 acres of shallow marsh wetland habitat through construction of five impoundments with water control structures. These impoundments and control structures allow for better management of water levels to meet habitat needs of waterfowl and other wildlife species.

These wetlands provide important nesting, roosting, brood rearing and migration habitat for waterfowl such as black ducks, wood ducks, mallards, teal and Canada geese. In addition, habitat has been created for migrating and resident birds including great blue heron, green heron, American bittern, red-shouldered hawk, osprey, harrier, bald eagle, and songbirds, as well as amphibians and reptiles. Furbearers such as mink, muskrat and otter also benefit from this project.

**CATEGORY: Capacity Building**

**PROJECT: Michigan Upper  
Peninsula Coastal Wetlands  
Project II**

Using a grant received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, over a dozen partners across the Upper Peninsula of Michigan are participating in a multi-phase, multi-year project that will protect, restore and manage coastal wetlands and associated uplands along Lake Superior. This project focuses on preventing development, fragmentation and destruction of coastal wetland areas and associated uplands through acquisitions (by fee title and/or easement acquisition) of key properties by government agencies and conservation organizations. Habitat enhancement and restoration are secondary objectives.

As with many of the existing wetlands and coastal areas, properties to be acquired are currently under threat of development. Coastal shoreline on Lake Superior and river corridors is prime real estate for recreationists. One such area under threat of development is the Keweenaw Peninsula of Lake Superior. This shoreline property is also a key Great Lakes avian staging area and provides migratory habitat for tens of thousands of waterfowl, passerines, and raptors during both spring and fall migrations. Through this project, 4,000 feet of Lake Superior shoreline will be protected from development while public access and public use will continue to be allowed.

**CATEGORY: Public Awareness**

**PROJECT: Winging Northward-A Shorebird's Journey**

To some, the importance of the Chugach National Forest's Copper River Delta to North America's migratory birds is well known. The Delta is the largest contiguous wetland area on the west coast of North America. However, the importance of the Copper River Delta to North America's migratory birds remains unknown to many. In 2002, a giant step was taken to change that.

Over the years, the Cordova Ranger District developed an innovative education and interpretive program focused on the fish and wildlife resources of the Delta. However, due to Cordova's isolation, only a relatively small number of people were reached through their education efforts. In order to widen the education "net" and leverage limited resources, the District gathered a powerful coalition of partners who shared their passion and goals. As a result of their 3-year effort, a group of dedicated educators joined forces to bring the Copper River Delta to thousands of children, teachers and parents across the Western Hemisphere. Blending traditional interpretation and education know-how with cutting edge technology, the innovative Winging Northward—A Shorebird's Journey distance-learning project reached over 140,000 children at over 850 sites in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico.

Winging Northward—A Shorebird's Journey was a comprehensive education project focused around a live, satellite-broadcast "field trip" from the Copper River Delta on May 8, 2002—the peak of shorebird migration. Although the highlight of the project was the broadcast, an entire web of supporting materials was spun around the televised event. The partners launched a dynamic website in November 2001, supported a live, bilingual webcast, produced supplemental education materials, and developed an evaluation program. The website offered a teacher resources center and exciting classroom activities that supported monthly themes and were correlated to national education standards. Maya the Western Sandpiper hosted the program and website and led children through her world as she journeyed from her wintering grounds in Mexico to her breeding grounds in western Alaska.

**CATEGORY: Leadership**

**PROJECT: South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative, Craig Watson**

Although the idea of a South Atlantic migratory bird partnership was discussed for a number of years, it was not until Craig Watson began his job as South Atlantic Coordinator for the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture that the partnership coalesced into the strong and effective South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative. With very little initial assistance or guidance, Craig was asked in 1999 to bring the South Atlantic partners together. Within a few months, Craig conducted the first of two multi-state all bird workshops that developed consensus on priorities and actions, and led to the first of many projects to address those priorities. Since then, Craig's leadership has built the South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative into an effective network that addresses the conservation of migratory birds through grants and other funding sources, state working groups, species groups, monitoring, and research groups. To a great degree, Craig's leadership and coordination keeps these program components active and effective. His latest efforts resulted in the inclusion of Puerto Rico in the South Atlantic Joint Venture and provided technical assistance to Mexican partners initiating a similar project on the Yucatan Peninsula. The South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative has become a model for regional-scale bird conservation planning and implementation across North America.

Craig Watson's hard work and leadership resulted in a clear vision, strong partnerships and significant accomplishments for bird conservation in the South Atlantic Coastal Plain. Without Craig's vision, dedication, and leadership the South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative would not have accomplished these goals.

## **Waterbirds Around the World**

Wetlands International invites you to the Waterbirds Around the World Conference to be held in Edinburgh, UK, from April 3-8, 2004. Jointly hosted by the United Kingdom and The Netherlands, with support from the Convention on Migratory Species, the Convention on Wetlands, BirdLife International, North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, CIC, FACE, Waterbird Society, and many other national and international organizations.

Waterbirds Around the World will focus on all major themes and developments related to the global conservation of waterbird flyways during their full annual cycle; breeding areas, stop-over sites and wintering areas, harvest of waterbirds, site networks, flyway monitoring, flyway management plans, climate change and flyways, nomadic migration and many more. It will address achievements of the last 40 years and formulate gaps and needs for initiatives to stimulate future conservation of the world's flyways and the species and habitats involved.

You can find additional information or register online at [www.wetlands.org](http://www.wetlands.org).

## **Forest Service and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation 2003 Elk Country Awards**

The first-ever *Elk Country Awards* were presented during the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's national convention in Reno in late February. The awards are national recognition sponsored jointly by the Forest Service and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

### **Individual Achievement – Jodie Canfield, Helena National Forest, Montana**

Jodie Canfield, a wildlife biologist with was honored for Individual Achievement. Jodie was selected for her exemplary stewardship of wildlife habitat in the Elkhorn Mountains.

"Management of the Elkhorns has presented challenges due to conflicting expectations from the public. Jodie's coordination has resulted in comprehensive management across an entire landscape, reaching across fencelines and philosophical boundaries," said Tom Toman, vice president of conservation programs for the Elk Foundation.



Canfield's passion, commitment and energy are credited with creating an atmosphere of collaboration among Elkhorn-area land managers, private landowners and public. She has been a true catalyst for advancing management strategies by communicating the vision and philosophy that healthy soil, water and vegetation are the basis for excellent

fish and wildlife habitat. Canfield has utilized noxious weed treatment, prescribed burning and native-species reintroduction to improve 27,000 acres of wildlife habitat.

The Forest Service and Elk Foundation also recognize diverse social uses of wildlife lands, and Canfield has incorporated public and private interests into her management plans. She identified and created opportunities for public education and enjoyment in the Elkhorns, and has been instrumental in securing funding to develop a master plan for assisting citizen-management of the lands around the historic town of Elkhorn. Additionally, Canfield was instrumental in the formation of the Elkhorns Working Group, a panel composed of local citizens, to address elk and grazing conflicts in the area. Canfield has worked with a variety of partners during the past 10 years to raise over \$300,000 for wildlife and fish habitat improvements. Partners have included Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Department, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, The Mule Deer Foundation, Trout Unlimited, Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, and American Land Conservancy, among others.

The Elkhorn Wildlife Management Area is located on the Helena and Beaverhead-Deerlodge national forests. It also includes state lands and lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

### **Habitat Improvement – Emmett Ranger District, Boise National Forest**

The Emmett Ranger District was selected for exemplary performance in multi-year planning and implementation of prescribed burning to improve wildlife habitat.



“This represents the first time that biologists have planned a multi-year watershed burning project to benefit elk and other wildlife species. It’s the kind of progressive action that will translate in the future to more natural landscapes, healthier elk herds, and better hunting,” said Tom Toman, vice president of conservation programs for the Elk Foundation.

The burns prescribed by the Emmett Ranger District began in 1998 and progressed through 2002. The project area is within Idaho’s Lighting

Creek management units 33 and 35. The objective was to reintroduce fire to large landscapes in vegetative communities where frequent, natural fires have occurred through time. Fire restarts plant succession, improving forage conditions for a resident elk herd of about 5,000 animals. Just over 1,000 acres were treated in 1998; 3,480 acres in 1999; 2,497 acres in 2000; no burns were conducted in 2001; and 1,930 acres in 2002. The systematic habitat improvement was one of the first attempts to treat elk winter range on a landscape scale within the Boise National Forest. Project partners included Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, Boise National Forest, and Idaho Fish & Game Commission.

### **Land Protection – Pintler Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana**

The Pintler Ranger District was recognized for Land Protection. The district was selected for its exemplary performance in bringing to fruition the massive “Watershed Project.”

The watershed consists of 32,500 acres near Anaconda, Montana, a rugged land with a variety of ecosystems. The area provides habitat for elk, deer, bighorn sheep, black bear, moose and mountain goats. Once considered prime real estate for development of residential and vacation properties, land in the Watershed Project has been acquired from a willing seller and moved into public ownership, for public access. This multi-phase project has been ongoing for several years and now is slated for completion in 2003.

“Watershed is wonderful wildlife habitat, and even if it stood secluded, protecting it would be a key success. But it’s important to note that Watershed is also a vital travel corridor connecting two other major tracts of habitat. So this project has permanently protected an area that will permit unrestricted natural movement of many species, some hunted, others threatened,” said Tom Toman, vice president of conservation programs for the Elk Foundation.

Acquired from YT Timber Company, thanks to the conservation vision and spirit of company president Ron Yanke, Watershed will eventually be totally owned by the Forest Service and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department.

Forest Service employees most closely associated with the award include Guy Adams, Bob Gilman, Errol Hammond, Joe Harper, Steve Gerdes, Jina Mariani, Robin Edwards, Mark Lodine, John Hickey, Gary Morrison, Kathy McAllister and Ron Erickson.



## **Modeling Animal Populations and Habitats in Space and Time Workshop—May 5-9, 2003, Boise ID**

Adaptive management is an attractive approach to managing animal populations and their habitats but it requires using modeling tools that are unfamiliar to many biologists. Likewise modeling has become a central element of many modern scientific investigations of animal populations and their habitats because it facilitates identifying key processes and components. This week-long workshop (May 5-9, 2003) is designed especially for wildlife, fisheries, conservation and other natural resource professionals needing an introduction or in-depth summary of modeling techniques useful for understanding and managing populations of animals and their habitats.



Participants will begin by setting objectives, constraints and bounding their problem in a way that facilitates application of simple models. The process of model building will be illustrated with numerous real examples from bird, mammal and fish populations in the Western U.S. The great value of integrating models into both research and management programs will be developed beginning with simple balance models and progressing to complex, stochastic models embracing uncertainty and viability. Participants will gain hands-on experience in the use of statistical, simulation modeling, and GIS software by analyzing recent data on the distribution and abundance of fish and wildlife populations and their habitats in the Pacific Northwest. Class size is limited to 22 participants and a minimum of 10 is required. Workshop participants will accrue 24 contact hours toward The Wildlife Society's Professional Development Program. Graduate credit from the Univ. of Idaho College of Graduate Studies is available also.

## **LOCATION AND TIME**

All meetings will be held at the University of Idaho, Boise Center, 800 Park Boulevard, Boise, Idaho. Meetings will run from 1 p.m. on Monday, May 5 through noon on Friday, May 9, 2003. A map can be found at: <http://www.boise.uidaho.edu/contact.asp>

## **PREREGISTRATION**

The registration fee is \$750 per participant. You may register on-line or print out the registration form and mail/FAX with payment to the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-1136. A late fee of \$100 will be added if check/PO/Invoice/Credit-Card payment not received 1 month prior to start of workshop.

## **HOUSING**

Housing is the responsibility of the registrant. The Courtyard Marriott is conveniently located about 3 minutes walk from the UI Boise Center. Call 208-331-2700 and ask for one of the rooms reserved until April 15 for the Modeling Animal Populations Seminar (\$89 per night).

## **CREDIT**

Workshop participants will accrue 24 contact hours toward The Wildlife Society's Professional Development Program, or credits toward other societies (AFS, ESA, SCB) continuing education requirements for professionals. One graduate credit for Wlf 504 is available from the University of Idaho's College of Graduate Studies for an additional fee of \$181 for Idaho residents or \$286 for non-residents. Graduate credit requires completing all lab assignments and writing a short paper after the course concludes.

## **QUESTIONS**

For transportation, registration, or logistical information, please call the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources at 208-885-4006 or [fish\\_wildlife@uidaho.edu](mailto:fish_wildlife@uidaho.edu).

The on-line registration can be found at:  
[http://www.its.uidaho.edu/population\\_ecology](http://www.its.uidaho.edu/population_ecology)

## **Assistant National Wildlife Program Leader Vacancy**

The Watershed, Fish, Wildlife, Air and Rare Plants Staff bids a fond farewell to **Ron Archuleta**, Assistant Wildlife Program Leader, after more than two years of outstanding service. Ron will be leaving the Washington Office in mid-April for a District Ranger position on the Livingston Ranger District, Gallatin National Forest in Montana. We wish Ron all the best in his new endeavor!

Qualified individuals are encouraged to apply for the Assistant Wildlife Program Leader position. The full vacancy announcement can be found at:

<http://jsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/summary.asp?OPMControl=IM0371>

Questions may be directed to Debbie Pressman, National Wildlife Program Leader, 202-205-1281; [dpressman@fs.fed.us](mailto:dpressman@fs.fed.us).

**Vacancy Announcement Number: WO-0185-03G (TK)**

**Opening Date: 03/26/2003**

**Closing Date: 04/25/2003**

**Position: WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST  
(ASST. NATIONAL WILDLIFE PROGRAM LEADER)**

GS-0486-12/13

**Salary: \$57,421.00 - \$88,770.00 per year**

**Promotion Potential: GS-13**

**Duty Location: 1 vacancy at WASHINGTON, DC**

**USDA Forest Service; National Forest System; Watershed, Fish, Wildlife, Air and Rare Plants Staff located in Washington, D.C.**

### **WHO MAY APPLY:**

Government-Wide

Veterans who are preference eligibles or who have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after three years or more of continuous active service, Veterans Readjustment Act eligibles, disabled veterans with a 30% or more disability, persons with severe disabilities, Peace Corps volunteers, and Vista volunteers, may apply and will be considered. The applicant must furnish required proof or certification of eligibility. Additional information on special employment authorities may be obtained from the office issuing this announcement.

Persons eligible for noncompetitive reinstatement, reassignment, or change to a lower grade may apply and will be considered.

Applicants covered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) or Intergovernmental Career Transition Program (ICTAP) may apply and will be given priority consideration if determined to be in the quality group as defined under the Method of Evaluation.

## MAJOR DUTIES:

The incumbent serves as the principle assistant to the National Wildlife Program Leader in coordination, development, implementation, and administration of the wildlife habitat management program. Advises, plans, and/or reviews specific problems, programs, or functions and develops new or improved techniques and solutions related to wildlife conservation. Develops and recommends national program policies, standards, and procedures to address specific natural resource management issues. The incumbent establishes partnerships and works with the private and public sectors to support the management of vegetation to provide a variety of values and uses within ecosystem capabilities.

## Vacancies

The following job announcements are just a sample of the job opportunities that can be found at <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>

Title	Grade/Series	Deadline	Vacancy #	Agency	Location
<a href="#"><u>WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST</u></a>	GS-0486-11/	Apr 18, 2003	PN-470-03D Full Time, Term appt NTE 13 months	FOREST SERVICE Open to Everyone	OLYMPIA, WA
<a href="#"><u>WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST</u></a>	GS-0486-05/	Apr 15, 2003	R2120008TEMP20 03 Full Time, Temporary	FOREST SERVICE Open to Everyone	SALIDA, CO
<a href="#"><u>WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST</u></a>	GS-0486-09/	Apr 24, 2003	OCH-0364-03D	FOREST SERVICE Open to Everyone	Paulina, OR
<a href="#"><u>WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST (INTERDISCIPLINARY)</u></a>	GS-0486-11/	Apr 14, 2003	R607-0989-03 Full Time, Permanent	Forest Service Open to Federal employees	PRINEVILLE, OR
<a href="#"><u>WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST (TES) SPECIES SPECIALIST</u></a>	GS-0486-13/13	Apr 9, 2003	R5-191-03G Full Time, Permanent	Forest Service Open to Federal employees	Vallejo, CA
<a href="#"><u>BIOLOGICAL SPECIALIST</u></a>	GS-0486-11/12	Apr 25, 2003	R616-0562-03	Forest Service Open to Federal employees	Baker City, OR

## Hotlinks!

- Wildlife, Fish and Rare Plants: <http://www.fs.fed.us/biology/wildlife/>
- 2003 News Releases: <http://www.fs.fed.us/news/2003/releases.shtml>
- FS Today Newsletter: [http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/pao/fs\\_today/](http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/pao/fs_today/)
- National Fire Plan: <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/nfp/>
- Roadless Area Conservation: <http://roadless.fs.fed.us/>
- Large-Scale Watershed Restoration Projects: <http://www.fs.fed.us/largewatershedprojects/>
- Land and Resource Management Plans: <http://www.fs.fed.us/forum/nepa/nfmalrmp.html>
- Watershed and Air Management: <http://www.fs.fed.us/clean/>
- Lands and Realty Management: <http://www.fs.fed.us/land/staff/>

- Road Management: <http://www.fs.fed.us/news/roads/>
- Recreation, Wilderness and Heritage Resources: <http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/>
- Forest Management: <http://www.fs.fed.us/land/fm/>
- International Programs: <http://www.fs.fed.us/global/>
- Research: <http://www.fe.fed.us/research/scientific.html>
- Healthy Forests Initiative: <http://www.fs.fed.us/projects/HFI.shtml>
- Quality of Information (**NEW**): <http://www.fs.fed.us/qoi/>

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Once you select a link please be sure to hit the “**Refresh**” button to ensure that you are loading the most current version of the web page!

**On The Wild Side** is a monthly update of activities of the National Forest System Terrestrial Wildlife and Ecology Program of the USDA Forest Service. All information presented is subject to change as projects evolve, opportunities arise and issues unfold. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted to Debbie Pressman at [dpressman@fs.fed.us](mailto:dpressman@fs.fed.us) no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. We reserve the right to edit contributions for clarity and brevity.

Positions listed are for outreach purposes only and are not full announcements. Interested individuals should contact the forests referenced or consult the USAJOBS website.

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