



# ISU Newsletter



## Summer Announcements for August 6 –19, 2006

Please submit newsletter information to Susan at [rittsusa@isu.edu](mailto:rittsusa@isu.edu)

### Presentations

**Dr. Terry Bowyer**, Dave Person, and Becky Pierce will give a presentation, "Detecting top-down versus bottom-up regulation in predator- prey systems: implications for management" at the Regional Moose Workshop to be held August 22-23, 2006 in Jackson, WY.

### Events

#### 2006 Native Fish Workshop

The annual ICAFS Native Fish Committee workshop is scheduled for August 11th and 12th near Hagerman. **Dr. Ernest Keeley** of Idaho State University will be hosting the 2006 workshop that features Idaho's native suckers. Meeting attendees will be treated to a social/cookout the evening of the 11th, followed by lessons in sucker identification the morning of the 12th, and finally some field sampling exercises during the afternoon of the 12th. Meeting location will be at the 1,000 Springs State Park <http://www.idahoparks.org/parks/thousandsprings.aspx> with camping available at the back end of the park. There are also hotels nearby for those not willing to tolerate the 100 degree temperatures common around Hagerman in August. As in past years, registration for the workshop will be \$20, to help cover meal costs (dinner, breakfast and lunch). Please contact Dan Garren (208-525-7290 or [dgarren@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:dgarren@idfg.idaho.gov)) prior to August 9 to register. An accurate head-count will help get an appropriate amount of food. We look forward to seeing you at this years' workshop!

This year's **Environmental & Subsurface Science Symposium** will be held in **Moscow, Idaho** at the University Inn **September 25 - 27, 2006**. The annual symposium will highlight research being performed at the INRA institutions, regional and national universities, National Laboratories, as well as others. Research activities within various topical areas will be presented. For more symposium information visit: <https://secure.meetingsystems.com/inra>

### Travel

**Dr. Ken Rodnick** traveled to St. John's, Newfoundland July 18-22, 2006 and presented a paper entitled "Sex differences in cardiac biochemistry and physiology in rainbow trout: What have we been missing?" at the 7th International Congress on the Biology of Fish. His coauthors included Doctoral student **Pavan Battiprolu**, former Master's students and current

departmental instructors **Richard Farrar** and **Kelli Harmon**, and former undergraduate **Nic Pierson**, who is currently a medical student at Penn State University.

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## **Employment Opportunities**

### **Graduate Research Assistant Positions:**

Two MS (or possibly PhD) students are sought for collaborative research on the ecophysiology and population ecology of invasive, exotic forbs in sagebrush steppe of Idaho.

The students will work as part of a team in several experiments designed to test the contribution of altered soil water availability to persistence of exotic populations (eg. knapweeds, thistles) in areas disturbed by land uses. The project involves field measurements of plant-soil water relationships, experimental manipulations of precipitation and soil water, use of stable isotopes to determine depth of water uptake in plants, and linking ecophysiological responses to soil water to models of population growth. One student will focus on stable isotope applications under the direction of Dr. John Marshall at the University of Idaho, and the other student will work on ecophysiological and population responses under Drs. Matt Germino, Richard Inouye, and Nancy Huntly at Idaho State University, in coordination with Dr. Jonathan Horton of University of North Carolina. The research is funded by a grant from the USDA NRI and will be performed in sites in and around Pocatello, Idaho. Applicants should send 1) a letter of interest and qualifications, 2) names, emails, and phone numbers of three references, 3) GRE scores, and 4) transcripts to either Matt Germino (germmatt@isu.edu; 208-282-3285; PO Box 8007, Pocatello ID 83209-8007) or John Marshall (jdm@uidaho.edu, 208-885-6695).

### **The Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program is seeking to fill a Toxics Reduction Engineer opening in Ecology's Southwest Regional Office.**

Position: Toxics Reduction Engineer

Employer: Washington State - Department of Ecology

Location: Olympia/Lacey, Washington

The new hire would be working with a creative and forward-thinking unit tasked to implement the State's Pollution Prevention Program. This involves helping business and government facilities in southwest Washington identify methods and technologies to:

- Minimize toxic chemicals in manufacturing processes, service operations, and products, and
- Reduce or eliminate the generation of hazardous wastes and other toxic emissions.

For more information about this unique job opportunity, please contact Leatta Dahlhoff, Toxics Reduction Unit Acting Supervisor at (360) 407-6339. Applicants should have a bachelor's in environmental, chemical, mechanical, or closely related engineering field, and must apply to the state's College Recruitment Program, Bachelor's Degree - Engineering and Architecture register **by August 21, 2006.**

<http://www.dop.wa.gov/JobSeekers/OtherOpportunities/CollegeGraduates/>. Dawn Russell Ecology Employee Services, at (360) 407-6193 can help you with register questions.

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## Department Developments

### BS/MS Option

The goal of this option is to allow academically strong students to begin work towards an MS degree after completing their junior year. This will allow these students to complete an MS degree, as well as a BS degree, with only one additional year in school. We think this option will be particularly attractive to students who have cultivated a significant research experience as undergraduates, and who plan to go on to a professional school after completing the B.S. degree. With one additional year, these students will significantly enrich their research experience. We anticipate that this will increase the number of M.S. degrees awarded by the Department, benefiting both the Department and the student's advisor. The student will be required to complete all of the graduation requirements for a B.S. degree in the Department of Biological Sciences. That degree would be awarded when those requirements are met, typically at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> year. In completing the graduation requirements for a B.S. degree, these students should have met all of the coursework requirements for admission to our M.S. program.

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## Department Stork Up-Date

We have added several "Bundles of Joy" to the department in the past couple of weeks.

**Paighton Jean**, granddaughter of **Pam Christensen**, born July 28, 2006. **Colin Terry**, grandson of **Dr. Bowyer**, born August 1, 2006. **Willow Jane**, granddaughter of **Susan Rittenhouse**, born August 5, 2006.