



**ISU**

Department of Biological Sciences

# Newsletter



## Weekly Announcements for March 4- 10, 2007

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

### Faculty/Staff/Other Meetings

There will be a **SPECIAL Biological Sciences Faculty** meeting **Friday, March 9, 2007 at noon** in the **Speech Pathology building in room 315**. This meeting is to discuss the Histology candidates.

### Seminars

**Dr. Chris Downing**, University of Colorado, **Histology** position applicant, presented his seminar, "Animal Models, (Epi) Genetics and Alcohol", **Monday, March 05, 2007 at 11 am** in the **Plant Sciences Lecture Hall 114**.

**Sid Blackmore and Ryan Bellmore**, graduate students will present their graduate seminars on **Thursday, March 8 at noon** in **Vocational Arts Building room 117**.

**Dr. Jonathan Chase**, Washington University, will present his seminar, "Community Assembly in Time and Space", **Thursday, March 8 at 4pm** in the **Plant Sciences Lecture Hall 114**.

### Grants

**Germino MJ**, Graumlich LJ (U Arizona), Mantua N and Little J (U Washington). 2007. Climatic and biotic co-limitation of conifer establishment at treelines: addressing uncertainty in bio-climatic mode forecasts of forest change. \$335,000/3 years. DOE National Institute for Climate Change Research (NICCR) Competitive Grant Program.

### Publications

**E. R. Keeley**, E. A. Parkinson, and E. B. Taylor. 2007. The origins of ecotypic variation of rainbow trout: a test of environmental vs. genetically based differences in morphology. *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* 20: 725-736.

Lord, T. and **Baviskar, S**. 2007. "Moving Students from Information Recitation to Information Understanding: Exploiting Bloom's Taxonomy in Creating Science Questions". *Journal of College Science Teaching*. 36(5): 40-44.

**T. Heath Ogden** and Michael S. Rosenberg. March 2007. How should gaps be treated in parsimony? A comparison of approaches using simulation, *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, Volume 42, Issue 3: 817-826.

---

## Presentations

**Jason Jones**, graduate student with **Dr. Chuck Peterson**, presented “A “tail” of two streams: Abundance and age class distribution of Rocky Mountain tailed frog larvae in two bio-geo-climatically different stream networks” at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, on February 19-21, 2007 with co-authors **Dr. Charles Peterson** and **Dr. Colden Baxter** at the Riparian Management in Headwater Catchments Conference. Additionally, Jason traveled to Victoria, British Columbia on February 22-23, 2007 and gave a presentation titled "Abundance and age class distribution patterns of Rocky Mountain tailed frog larvae in two bio-geo-climatically different stream networks" with co-authors **Dr. Charles Peterson** and **Dr. Colden Baxter** at the Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology annual conference.

---

## Travel

**Dr. Rosemary Smith** traveled to Portland, Oregon March 2-3, 2007 to cheer on the Idaho robotics teams competing in the FIRST robotics regional competition. The four southeast Idaho teams are supported by the NSF-funded GK-12 project and mentored by graduate Fellows from the College of Engineering.

**Drs. Rosemary Smith** and **Jeff Hill** (GK-12 PI's, Biological Sciences), **Hannah Sanger** (Project Coordinator), **Kira Pontius** and **Katie Miller** (Graduate GK-12 Fellows from Biological Sciences), and John Loftin and Robert Miron (District 25 science teachers) will travel to Washington D.C. March 8-11, 2007 for NSF's GK-12 Annual Meeting.

---

## Events

**The Idaho Chapter of The Wildlife Society's 2007 Annual Conference**, “Navigating the Nature of the New West” will take place **March 5-7, 2007** in Pocatello, Idaho. The Biological Sciences Department will be presenting the following: National and Regional PARC Updates – **Chuck Peterson** (ISU, IMNH)

Herbivore optimization by North American elk: consequences for theory and management. **K.M. STEWART, R.T. Bowyer, and J.G. Kie.**

Genetic variation and population genetic structure of Townsend's bigeared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*) in southeast Idaho. **K. MILLER and M.D. Matocq.**

Footprint evidence for an unrecognized hominoid in the forest habitats of the Pacific and Inter-Mountain West. **D.J. MELDRUM and J. Mionczynski.**

Effects of estradiol, progesterone and prolactin on glycogen accumulation in the mink uterus. **E.D. MECHAM\*, J. Thomas and J. Rose.**

Reestablishing mountain quail into south-central Idaho. **R. TROY\*, J. Connelly, and D. Delehanty.**

Young bighorn (*Ovis canadensis*) males: can they successfully woo females? **J. Whiting, R.T. Bowyer, and J.T. FLINDERS\***.

Incubation rhythms of greater sage-grouse. **P.C. COATES\* and D.J. Delehanty.**

Seasonal response of elk to forest fuels reduction. **R.A. LONG\*, J.L. Rachlow, and J.G. Kie.**

Evaluation of techniques for categorizing group membership of white-tailed deer. **K.L. MONTEITH\*, C. L. Sexton, J.A. Jenks, and R.T. Bowyer.**

Using thermal landscapes to improve resource selection functions for black-tailed deer. **J.G. KIE and R.T. Bowyer.**

Sex differences in space use and group size of mountain sheep. **C. SCHROEDER\*, R.T. Bowyer, V. Bleich, and T.R. Stephenson.**

Group dynamics and timing of mating in American bison: effects of large males. **R.T. BOWYER, V.C. Bleich, X. Manteca, J.C. Whiting, and K.M. Stewart.**

Landscape use by greater sage-grouse: effects of habitat fragmentation. **J.F. SHEPHERD, K.P. Reese, and J.W. Connelly.**

Greater sage-grouse use of three tip sagebrush in south-central Idaho. **B. LOWE, D. Delehanty, and J. Connelly.**

Investigation chytridiomycosis in the boreal toad (*Bufo boreas boreas*) in Grand Teton National Park. **S. BRUER\*, S. St-Hilaire, P. Murphy, P. Sheridan, and C. Peterson.**

A “tail” of two streams: distribution and abundance of Rocky Mountain tailed frog tadpoles in two stream networks. **J.L. JONES\*, C.R. Peterson, and C.V. Baxter.**

Movement of prairie rattlesnakes in a mountainous landscape in central Idaho. **J. BAUDER\* and C.R. Peterson.**

Conservation biology of Great Basin rattlesnakes in sagebrush steppe ecosystems: landscape disturbance, prey availability, and rattlesnake reproduction. **C.L. JENKINS\* and C.R. Peterson.**

---

### **Employment Opportunities**

**Western Watershed Projects** is looking for an upper division undergraduate or graduate student for summer and fall. The position will include field and office work. Contact Dr. John Carter at [wwshed@comcast.net](mailto:wwshed@comcast.net) .

**Wanted: Two Undergraduate volunteers needed for Bighorn Sheep Habitat assessments in the Lost River.** The student will be a US Forest Service volunteer. If you are interested, provide a curriculum vitae and a letter summarizing your qualifications for

field work to: Dr. R. Terry Bowyer, Department of Biological Sciences, ISU.  
[bowyterr@isu.edu](mailto:bowyterr@isu.edu)

**California Department of Fish and Game-Heritage and Wild Trout Program** are seeking to hire an experienced Crew Leader to supervise the field operations of their Wild Trout Survey Crew. For further information contact: Jeff Weaver at (916) 358-2870 or [jweaver@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:jweaver@dfg.ca.gov)

**California Department of Fish and Game-Heritage and Wild Trout Program** are seeking to hire Fish and Wildlife Scientific Aides to work on their Wild Trout Survey Crew. For further information contact: Jeff Weaver at (916) 358-2870 or [jweaver@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:jweaver@dfg.ca.gov)

**The Nature Conservancy in Idaho is looking for a Silver Creek Preserve Assistant.** Preserve Assistant is responsible for assisting preserve manager with the daily operation and management of preserve. Duties include assisting with biological and ecological data collection, research, preserve maintenance, public outreach, and other preserve related activities. Majority of time will be spent working in the field, directing volunteers and interns and interacting with public. This is a full time 8 month position. Qualified applicant must be available to begin work early April, have access to reliable transportation, and have valid driver's license. See job description at [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org) or call Dayna 208-788-7910. Send resume and cover letter to: PO Box 624 Picabo, ID 83348. **Applications will be considered until March 7, 2007.**

**The Cooperative North American Shotgunning Education Program (CONSEP)** is looking for an individual who: 1.) Is a reliable worker capable of being trained in laboratory and field research methodologies which require careful attention to detail and the following of an established scientific protocol; 2.) Is capable of sometimes physically demanding field work, frequently at odd hours and odd days; 3.) Is preferably active in waterfowl and/or upland bird hunting but with a strong scientific inclination, and definitely not just looking for a temporary "bird hunting" job." Job begins as close as possible to September 10, 2007 (negotiable), and ends approximately February 28, 2008. May be extended if need arises, CONSEP Board and applicant are willing, and funding becomes available. For further details, contact Tom Roster, CONSEP Consultant, 1190 Lynnewood Blvd., Klamath Falls, OR 97601, Phone 541-884-2974, [tomroster@charter.net](mailto:tomroster@charter.net). Postmark resume, references (with current phone number for each), transcripts, and letter of interest by **March 23, 2007.**

**The Nature Conservancy in Idaho is looking for a Silver Creek Preserve Summer Intern.** Preserve Intern responsible for assisting preserve staff with daily operation and management of preserve. Duties include assisting with data collection, research, preserve maintenance, public outreach, and other preserve related activities. The majority of the intern's time will be spent in field with other volunteers and interns, as well as interacting with the public. This is a full time short-term (summer) position. Qualified applicant must be available to live at the preserve, begin work in mid- May, and have valid driver's license. See job description at [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org) or call Dayna for more information 208-788-7910 Send resume and cover letter to P. O. Box 624 Picabo, ID 83348. **Applications will be considered until March 30, 2007.**

---

## Notices

### Call for BYRP Mentors

**Graduate Students:** The Biology Youth Research Program (BYRP) is now accepting applications for mentors for Summer 2007. Please refer to the BYRP webpage <http://www.isu.edu/bios/byrp/> for a description of the program and for the application materials. The program provides some money for research supplies when available.

### William Dee Whitehead Memorial Scholarship

Applications are available in the College of Arts and Sciences Office or at:

<http://www.isu.edu/scholar/forms/WhiteheadApp.pdf>

**Due date: March 23, 2007**

### Kasiska Scholarship

Applications are now available on the Biological Sciences Website:

<http://www.isu.edu/bios/undergradprog.shtml>, and in the main Biology office.

**Due date: March 30, 2007**

### Call For Papers:

Idaho Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting and Symposium

**April 19-21, 2007** at the Idaho National Laboratory/University Place in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Symposium Theme: Energy for the Future – Human & Ecological Considerations.

Full Information Website: [www.isu.edu/ias/](http://www.isu.edu/ias/)

### Nez Perce Tribe-Wolf Recovery Program

It is that time of year again where they are looking for volunteers for the Gray Wolf Recovery Program to aid in the 2007 summer field season. This is a great opportunity to gain valuable field experience while working in rugged and beautiful Idaho.

**Applications will be accepted from March 15, 2007 until March 31, 2007.** For more information, please contact Mary Allen at 208-634-1061 or email at [marya@nezperce.org](mailto:marya@nezperce.org).

### Call for Proposals:

**Graduate Student Research and Scholarship Committee - Funding for Fall Semester**

**2007** Guidelines for the Preparation of Proposals to the Graduate Student Research and Scholarship Committee available through this website

<http://www.isu.edu/research/gsrsc.shtml> or from the Office of Research, Fine Arts Building, Room 205, 282-2714. (If you have any questions or need more information, you can contact

**Kelsey Metzger, representative for Biology on GSRSC.) DEADLINE FOR**

**PROPOSALS SUBMISSION is 5:00 PM, Wednesday, March 21, 2007, to Office of Research, Fine Arts Building Room 205.**

---

## Alumni News

**Niles Hasselquist** and **Eliza Maher** (both have an MS in Biology from 2004), who met in our department and ending up working together because of their common interest in alpine treeline ecology, have announced their wedding plans for this summer. They had to live together in an 18 ft camper in a remote location at 10,000 ft asl for their research at ISU, and here is what Niles had to say: "I can not believe it...WE ARE GETTING MARRIED!!! I guess that is what happens when you spend the entire summer with someone (either you learn to hate them or you learn to love them). It is clear what happened in our case."