



Weekly Announcements for April 26-May 2, 2009

Please submit newsletter information to Pam at chripame@isu.edu

Faculty/Staff/Other Meetings

Biological Sciences Faculty Meeting will be held **Tuesday, April 28, 2009**, in the **Speech Pathology Building #68 in room SPA 315 at noon.**

Seminars

Jared Wortham, MS graduate student with **Dr. Linda DeVeaux**, will present his Defense seminar, "Identification and Isolation of Persistent Subpopulations in *Deinococcus radiodurans*," **Wednesday, April 29, 2009, at 2:30 PM in SPA 315.**

Nicole Wisniewski, PhD graduate student with **Dr. Shawn Bearden**, will present her Proposal seminar **Thursday, April 30, 2009, at 12:00 Noon in Lecture Center 10.**

Heidi Alexander, MS graduate student with **Dr. James Groome**, will present her Defense seminar, "Investigation of a Voltage-Gated Sodium Channel β I-Subunit Mutation: Contributions to a Hyperexcitable Phenotype in Generalized Epilepsy," **Thursday, April 30, 2009, at 1:00 PM in VA 117.**

Dr. Alan Covich, University of Georgia Odum, School of Ecology, will present his seminar, "The Importance of Freshwater Ecosystem Services in a World of Changing Climates," **Thursday, April 30, 2009, at 4:00 PM in Lecture Center 10.**

Dr. Alan Covich, University of Georgia Odum, School of Ecology, will present his seminar, "Long-Term Cumulative Effects of Pulsed Disturbance and Subsidies to Tropical Headwater Streams: A Perspective from the Luquillo Mountains of Puerto Rico," **Friday, May 1, 2009, at 10:00 AM in NURS 209.**

Presentations

Students from the BIOL499/599 course, "Human-Animal-Wildlife Health," will be presenting posters analyzing the risk of cross-species disease transmission between 3-4 PM on Thursday, April 30, in the foyer of the Life Sciences Building immediately prior to the regular 4 pm seminar. Please come support our students in their poster session!

Poster presentations:

- Marie Adomako. "Risk Assessment for Residences with Backyard Chicken Flocks"
- Jason Beck. "Brucellosis in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem"
- Michael Brown. "Water Disease Prevention Through Education"
- Samantha Cousin. "Canine Distemper Virus in the Serengeti"
- Pat Gygli. "Mosquitoes Suck: Avoiding West Nile Virus Infection"
- Shawna Park. "Man's Best Friend?"
- Nicole Sheeley. "Risk-Analysis for the Transmission of Vector-Borne Diseases from the Middle East to Naïve North American Populations"
- George Yarno. "Rabies: Eradicated or Not?"

Awards

Winners from the Undergraduate Research Symposium, April 9, 2009, include:

Oral Presentations

1. **Ryan Marcum (Dr. Sophie St. Hilaire, Biology)**
2. **Jeremy Roe (Dr. Jean Pfau, Biology)**
3. **Dennis Demshar (Dr. Matt Germino, Biology)**

Posters

1. **Lindsey Coker & Cody Fowers (Dr. Jean Pfau, Biology)**
2. **Ryan Marcum (Dr. Sophie St. Hilaire, Biology)**
3. **Kip Katseanes & Jeremy Roe (Dr. Jean Pfau, Biology)**
3. **Dustin Portela & Nick Beebe (Dr. Trent Stephens, Biology)**

Winners received award certificates and complimentary memberships to the Sigma Xi Society. Thanks to all who participated and attended this wonderful opportunity for our students and congratulations to these excellent young researchers.

Scholarships Available

The following scholarships are available for the Academic Year 2009-10. The **deadline has been extended to April 27, 2009**. If you are interested and meet the criteria, please get an application from the ISU scholarship office or the ISU scholarship web page at <http://www.isu.edu/scholar/opencsc.shtml>

Edson Fichter Wildlife Ecology - 2.5 GPA, Undergrad/Grad, preference to students with research or volunteer experience in wildlife management and a career objective in the field of Wildlife Ecology. \$760.00 is available to award for the 2009-10 academic year.

Barry Keller Memorial - Graduate student enrolled in the ISU Department of Biological Sciences, recipients of this award shall be involved in the study of ecology, environmental sciences, or field biology. Award based upon academic merit. \$1,190 is available to award for the 2009-10 academic year

Albert Burch Strahan Memorial - 2.00 GPA, Junior or Senior, Ecology major, Idaho residency, preference to Wildlife or Stream Ecology. \$980 is available to award for the 2009-10 academic year.

Job Opportunities

REU Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates-Tucson, AZ. REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates) is a National Science Foundation-sponsored program wherein undergraduates receive a stipend (up to \$5,760 or \$480 per week for 10 to 12 weeks) to conduct independent research projects under faculty guidance and mentorship. The School of Natural Resources at the University of Arizona (UA) has two openings for REU scholars for the summer of 2009. **One position** is for a collaborative study with Dr. Steve Archer (UA) and Dr. Susan Schwinning (Texas State University) investigating why some shrubs are more successful than others in invading and establishing in grasslands. **Another position** is for a collaborative study with Dr. Steve Archer and Dr. Dave Breshears at UA and collaborators at New Mexico State, Loyola University and the University of Kentucky examining how plant litter decomposition in deserts is influenced by interactions between radiant energy and wind and water redistribution of soil. In addition to their own investigations, REU scholars will participate in controlled environment studies on the UA campus; and in field studies at the Santa Rita Experimental Range just south of Tucson. For more details on the two projects and application procedures, see <http://ag.arizona.edu/research/archer/>. **Application Deadline is April 30, 2009;** or until suitable candidate is hired.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game Fisheries Biological Aide, Nampa, ID. Salary is \$9.00/hour (plus benefits if available through November). **Dates of Employment** May 1 - November 2009 (Dates flexible depending on availability). **Duties/Responsibilities:** Working on the **Wild Trout Research Project** studying competition between hatchery catchables and wild rainbow trout based out of IDFG fisheries research office in Nampa. Primary responsibility to assist Wild Trout crew in electrofishing surveys using

backpack and canoe-mounted electrofishing gear and maintaining collected information in multiple databases. Other duties include accurately collecting fish and habitat information, monitoring stream temperatures, stocking hatchery fish, preparing scales and otoliths for aging, PIT tagging fish, maintaining equipment, and assisting other research projects. **Minimum Qualifications:** Must demonstrate ability to handle responsibility, work independently, able to use maps and GPS units to locate sites, and work well with others. Must be able to lift 60 pounds and carry 40 pounds of equipment for several miles daily. Work will involve negotiating slippery, uneven terrain, often during inclement weather conditions. Previous fishery work experience is NOT required, but preference will be given if experience includes electrofishing, snorkel surveys, habitat surveys, mark-recapture surveys, gill netting, PIT tagging experience and database computer skills. Further consideration will be given to individuals working toward a B.S. degree in fisheries, wildlife, biology, or a related field. **To apply, please prepare the following:** A resume; Three work references (names and phone numbers of 3 professional references); DO NOT SEND LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION, please; A completed Idaho Department of Fish and Game application for temporary employment (available on Department website). E-mail or mail the application material to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, c/o Steve Elle, 1414 E. Locust Lane, Nampa, ID 83686. E-mail: steve.elle@idfg.idaho.gov.

Portage, Inc. is looking for a Field/Forest Technician to provide help with a forest survey. **Education:** Preference is a College Undergraduate Student. **Closing Date:** 6/1/2009. **Requirements:** Must be in good physical condition. Need to have basic skills in math, earth science, map reading, with some computer literacy. The job requires working in remote areas of Southeastern Idaho, so camping skills and equipment are a must. A forestry background and/or the ability to perform general forest measurements is preferred. **Description:** Shall perform a Forest and Fuel Inventory. The Inventory will include fieldwork which shall include vegetation cruise and fuels plot data collection. Inventory data collection will be completed with plot data, walkthrough data, and photo interpretation. Data to be collected for the Inventory will include; tree, shrub, grass and forb species identification commonly found in Southeastern Idaho, plot information from the habitat cruise, disease and infestations, and age of trees. Data will be entered into hand held data loggers while in the field. Successful applicants will participate in general training for use of related instruments (Relescope, Trimble GPS, increment borers) needed to perform the tasks required. The job will be full time/temporary summer position with the likelihood of continuing over additional years. **If anyone is interested**, e-mail your resume for consideration to John Beller, jbeller@portageinc.com. Phone number is 208-419-4103.

Volunteer Opportunities

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks seeking professional volunteers to assist with the **Montana Gray Wolf Conservation and Management Program** (www.fwp.mt.gov/wildthings/wolf). Great opportunity to gain valuable field experience and references, while working in the rugged and beautiful Montana Rocky Mountains. **Work conducted** throughout western Montana. **Schedule** highly variable, but hitches are loosely based on 10 days on/4 days off. **Duration June-September**, but may vary depending upon conditions, volunteer availability, and project funding. **Duties include**, conduct wolf surveys. Surveys include driving, biking, and hiking on roads and trails, and howling in suspected wolf areas to document presence and numbers. Monitor wolf activities in livestock areas and hazing or harassing wolves. May assist with capture and radio collaring wolves, conduct reproductive surveys, locate and collect data from wolf home sites. In general duties vary widely from vehicle maintenance to teamwork to survey work to livestock conflict management and much more. These qualifications are **ABSOLUTELY** necessary, because of the remote and independent nature of the fieldwork in **difficult climate and topography:** Ability to backpack, camp, and work and live for extended periods of time in remote settings; Orienteering (use of map and compass for navigating) proficiency; Excellent physical condition; Must hold valid driver's license; Possess the ability to get along with others in backcountry settings for 2+ week time periods; Possess the ability to communicate in a helpful friendly manner with interested and affected publics; Completion of or enrollment in college/university wildlife, or closely related curriculum. **The**

following skills and abilities are additionally helpful: Experience in radio telemetry in mountainous terrain. Capture and handling/processing of wildlife. **Application Period:** Apply Now! **Candidates will be selected in April.** **How to Apply:** 1) Cover letter detailing your professional interests and experience as it pertains to these positions, and detail your period of availability 2) Resume 3) List of names and contact information of 3 references. Ideally email this info to: klaudon@mt.gov. If you must, you can also send application materials to: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Attn: Wolf Volunteer Program, 490 N. Meridian Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901. Telephone: (406) 751-4586, Fax: (406) 257-0349.

The Idaho Chapter of The American Fisheries Society has a website where biologists from across the state will post fisheries sampling activities beginning in April and continuing through the fall, 2009. The site is interactive with space for biologists to list the date, location and type of field work and space for students to list their availability by date and location. **The intention of this program** is to provide students with the opportunity to gain some field experience in fisheries research and management activities and get to know fishery professionals. Conversely, biologists will get to know students entering the profession. **To access the website**, go to: <http://idahoafs.org/> and then select the volunteer link (second from the bottom on left hand side of the page). The next step is to sign in which requires you to provide an email address and a password (please record your password as this will determine your future access to the site). Next, build a profile including name, address, and phone number. Then enter your availability by date and location under "my posted availability". **The final step** will be for both biologists and volunteers to periodically check the site for available matches as the field season progresses. **Hopefully, this will provide you with opportunities** to gain experience in fisheries field work and meet new folks in the profession. **Questions?** Please email Steve Elle at steve.elle@idfg.idaho.gov.

Payroll Information

Our next **pay period ends May 2**. Please be sure to **submit your time by Monday, May 4 at 12 NOON**. This gives **your approver time to approve your time card and fix any problems by May 5** when time cards are due to Payroll. If you have employees working for you, you need to make sure they are submitting their hours and that you are approving their time cards on time. Time cards need to be submitted and approved on time for everyone to get their pay checks when they expect them. In the past late time cards were accepted, but with the new system they are not. If you have **questions about Web Time Entry**, go to the following link for answers. <http://www.isu.edu/tigeri/training/bengalweb/FAQs.shtml#WebTimeEntry>.