

Fisheries and Wildlife Program News

Department and Program Information and Faculty Achievements

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Bird banding occurs at The Turner House on March 31, 2005

To evaluate the impacts of bird use in response to the creation of a wildlife friendly habitat in an urban environment, numerous songbirds were leg banded at The Turner House on March 31, 2005..



Students (left to right) **Brandon Sherrill**, **Gabriel Karns**, **Stephanie Zolkowski**, and **Jane Anderson** (far right) receive instruction on bird banding from **Mrs. Beverly Lineberger** (2nd from right). Photo provided by **Dr. Phil Doerr**.

Tidewater Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Awards Presented at the February 2005 Meeting in Virginia Beach, VA

The 2004 Conservation Award recipient is **Dr. Wilson Laney**. The Conservation Award is given periodically to an individual, resource management agency, corporation, or non-profit organization that has distinguished themselves/itself through notable fisheries or habitat conservation activities. Dr. Laney is Assistant Coordinator of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's South Atlantic Fisheries Coordination Office in Raleigh, North Carolina---a position he's held since 1991. Additionally, he is an adjunct faculty member at North Carolina State University. He has contributed to numerous fisheries management plans, beginning with the Report to Congress for the North Carolina Striped Bass Study in 1992. After passage of the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act of 1993, he began writing plans for ASMFC. He authored and co-authored management plans for striped bass, weakfish, Atlantic sturgeon, shad, river herring, and bluefish; and he to essential fish habitat plans and the Roanoke River Basin Diadromous Fish Restoration Plan. Dr. Laney has been an AFS member for 34 years, and belongs to the North Carolina and Tidewater Chapters. He is Past-President of the North Carolina Chapter. Wilson just returned from several days at sea, on board the NOAA research vessel Oregon II, where he served as a member of the 12 midnight-6 am watch for the Cooperative Winter Tagging Cruise. Wilson and the crew spent many hours tagging striped bass, spiny dogfish, Atlantic sturgeon, and horseshoe crabs.

Dr. Wilson Laney

receives 2004

Conservation Award.

Congratulations!

Drs. Phil Doerr and Richard Lancia initiate a study of highway underpass use by black bears

Drs. Doerr and **Lancia** are initiating a study of the use by bears of highway underpasses on I-26 in Madison County, North Carolina. The project is funded by NC DOT. **Liz Jones** has been selected as the M.S. student in wildlife to conduct the research. She graduated from North Carolina State University in May 2005 (B.S. Zoology) as class valedictorian with a 4.0 GPA. Liz is a member if Phi Beta Kappa and Xi Sigma Pi.

North Carolina State University has a prominent role in the 4th Biennial Symposium of the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society

North Carolina State University faculty and graduate students from Environmental and Molecular Toxicology, Forestry, and Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences played a prominent role in organizing and presenting leading edge research at the 4th Biennial Symposium of the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society held May 15-18, 2005 in St. Paul, Minnesota. North Carolina State University hosted the 2003 symposium. Please contact **Dr. Greg Cope** for a copy of the program and abstracts.

Two Fisheries and Wildlife MS students graduated in May

Two of **Dr. Joe Hightower's** Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences MS students graduated in May: **Summer Michelle Burdick** and **Alesia Noelle Read**. Summer recently received the NC Sea Grant Marine Fishery Fellowship for 2005. She will be moving to the coast and will be working on red drum at NCSU's CMAST facility. Alesia received a 15-month Sea Grant/AFS Fellowship at AFS headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland. Her primary work responsibility is to organize a symposium on cooperative fisheries research and management for the 2005 AFS annual meeting in Alaska. The symposium will cover successful and unsuccessful examples, lessons learned and opportunities for the future. Congratulations to both.

Four Fisheries and Wildlife Undergraduate students graduated in May

Fisheries and Wildlife undergraduate students that graduated in May 2005 include: **Casey Wyatt Woody**, **Michael Lee Annas**, **Ricky Lee Davis, Jr.**, and **Brian Mitchell Harrison**. Congratulations and good luck.

North Carolina State University graduate accepts position with the New Jersey Audubon Society

Kim Peters (M.S. Wildlife, North Carolina State University) has accepted a position as Director of Monitoring Programs for New Jersey Audubon Society. She is completing her Ph.D. at Clemson and will begin her position this summer. Congratulations.

Jennifer Thompson successfully passed her Dissertation Defense

Jennifer Thompson a Fisheries and Wildlife student successfully passed her dissertation defense. Her Dissertation entitled, 'Breeding biology of Swainson's Warblers in a managed South Carolina bottomland forest' investigated the breeding biology and nest-site selection of a population of Swainson's Warblers (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) breeding on a timberland in the Atlantic Coastal Plain. Nest monitoring data ($n = 98$) indicated a productive population practicing multiple brooding, a previously unrecognized behavior, which more than doubled an individual's fecundity. Nest sites were positioned closer to understory thickets than territory or unused habitat, and were closer to larger understory thickets. Congratulations Jenn!

Fisheries and Wildlife undergraduate students honored

Chesley Ward, **Anna McMillian**, **Kathryn Cunningham**, **Nicole Fowler**, **Jason Riddle**, and **Brandon Sherrill**, Fisheries and Wildlife students, have been invited to join Xi Sigma Pi, the Forestry Honor Society. Membership into Xi Sigma Pi is by invitation only. Congratulations!

*Jennifer Thompson
successfully defended
her dissertation.
Congratulations!*

Dr. Chris Moorman achieves positive feedback following the Halifax County extension workshop

Dr. Chris Moorman received 15 surveys from attendees following the Halifax County workshop, *Whole Farm Management for Wildlife*. Respondents owned 13,058 acres, leased 5,500 acres, and consulted/managed 618,500 acres. Most respondents were laypersons (n=12) without formal wildlife management training. When asked to list and rank the wildlife management practices they conduct or would like to conduct, 8 of 13 listed prescribed burning of which 7 ranked it first. For the same question, 9 of 13 listed field borders and 3 ranked this treatment first. Twenty-seven percent of respondents already used prescribed fire on their property and another 60% planned to use fire following the workshop. Thirty-three percent already left field borders and 47% planned to leave borders in the future. Although many respondents already conducted various management practices, an additional 20% planned to begin thinning, 27% to leave fallow ditch banks, 20% to begin no-till farming, 27% to control invasive plants using herbicides, 40% to establish native warm-season grasses, 33% to rotational disk openings, and 33% to use cost-share programs.

Senior Design Center Team named top ten in world; Fisheries and Wildlife student Ben Noffsinger is part of the team

The Senior Design Center Team project submitted to the IEEE Computer Society International Design Competition (CSIDC) 2005 has been named one of the top ten in the world. The team will be traveling to Washington DC at the end of June to participate in the CSIDC 2005 World Finals. This is the second time in the past 3 years the Senior Design Center Team has reached the top ten. The 2003 team placed third in the world with their "Diet Download" project. The members of the 2005 team are: David Coblenz (CSC), Dakota Hawkins (CSC), Jonathan Lewis (CSC), and **Ben Noffsinger** (Fisheries & Wildlife). Their project is called NEAT: Networks for Endangered Animal Tracking. NEAT combines GPS technology with wireless sensor networks to produce a potential product for wildlife officials and agencies. The system utilizes battery-powered, ad hoc, wireless sensor systems to collect, store, and forward GPS-based location data that can be used to track animal movements. Good luck at the competition.

*Senior Design Center Team named top ten in world; **Ben Noffsinger** is a team member*

Undergraduate Students receive funding for Turner House Landscape Project

Undergraduate students, **Jane Anderson, Gabe Karns, Michael Horne, and Robert Snow** were awarded a \$1,000 grant from the College of Natural Resources to install a small pond in the Turner House backyard and to monitor wildlife responses to the creation of wetland habitat in an urban environment.

Pennsylvania Deer Program Dominated by North Carolina State University Alumni

Dr. Chris Rosenberry, was recently promoted to the Pennsylvania Supervisory Deer Biologist. His duties include overall supervision of deer management program and population monitoring and research. Chris earned his Ph.D. from NCSU 1997. His advisor was **Dr. Richard Lancia**. Chris conducted his doctoral research on dispersal ecology and behavior of yearling male white-tailed deer at Chesapeake Farms in Maryland.

Bret D. Wallingford is a Deer Biologist with Pennsylvania. His duties include population data collection, research projects coordinator, and human dimension surveys. He earned his M.S. from NCSU in 1990 and his advisor was **Dr. Richard Lancia**. His M.S. research included research on sightability of female deer, telemetry error, and use of yohimbine antagonist at Chesapeake Farms in Maryland

Jeannine Tardiff is a Deer Biologist with Pennsylvania. Her duties include chronic wasting disease, urban deer management, and citizen task forces. Jeannine earned her M.S. from NCSU in 1999. Her advisor was **Dr. Richard Lancia**. Her M.S. research focused on deer use of agricultural crops at Chesapeake Farms in Maryland.

Stephanie Zolkowski honored as the 2005 Leopold Wildlife Club Award Winner

Stephanie Zolkowski, President of the North Carolina State University Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society was awarded The Leopold Award. Stephanie was recognized by club members as 'Member of the Year' for outstanding contributions to the North Carolina State University Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society. Congratulations and thank you for your service.

*Stephanie Zolkowski
wins The Leopold
Award!*



Stephanie Zolkowski with The Leopold Award. Photo provided by **Dr. Chris DePerno**.

Recent Publications, Reports, Presentations, and Funding

Publications & Reports

Peters, K. A, R. A. Lancia, and J. A. Gerwin. 2005. Swainson's warbler habitat selection in a managed bottomland hardwood forest. *Journal of Wildlife Management*. 69:409-417.

Sinclair, K. E., **G. R. Hess., C. E. Moorman,** and J. H. Mason. 2005. Mammalian nest predators respond to greenway width, landscape context and habitat structure. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 71:277-293.

Presentations

Bardon, R., C. Moorman, et al. 2005. Developing an effective program area when you don't have the knowledge base. 2005 NC Annual Extension Conference, Raleigh (40 people).

DePerno, C. S. 2005. Coyote: behavior and depredation control. Presented to 40 members of the Randolph County Livestock Producers, Asheboro, North Carolina.

Kohut, S., **C. Moorman,** and **G. Hess.** 2005. Can Urban Greenways Provide High Quality Stopover Habitat? NC PIF 2005 Annual Meeting, Howell Woods Environmental Learning Center (75 people).

Moorman, C. E. 2005. Whole Farm Management for Wildlife. Halifax County (25 people).

Moorman, C. E. 2005. Landscaping for Wildlife with Native Plants. Wilson County Master Gardener Symposium, Wilson (100 people).

Moorman, C. E. 2005. Landscaping for Birds with Native Plants. Cumberland County Master Gardener Training, Fayetteville (25 people).

Moorman, C. E. 2005. Managing for Nongame Wildlife. 2005 Master Wildlifer Teleconference Program. Clemson University, Clemson, SC (3,000 viewers).

Moorman, C. E. 2005. Woodpeckers, Geese, Pigeons, and Other Problem Birds. 2005 Wildlife Damage Control Agent Advanced Training, Raleigh (80 people).

Moorman, C. E. 2005. Landscaping for Wildlife with Native Plants. NCWF Stewards Training. Bass Lake City Park, Holly Springs, NC (10 people).

Moorman, C. E. 2005. Landscaping for Wildlife with Native Plants. NCSU Friends of the Arboretum Lecture, Raleigh (55 people).

Moorman, C. E. 2005. Working with the Media. Forest Issues Forum Teleconference Series. (105 people).

Recent publications and reports!

Presentations (cont.)

- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Forest Management for Wildlife Field Tour. Croatan Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, Weyerhaeuser's Cool Springs EE Center, New Bern (30 people).
- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Hosted 2005 NC Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program contest. Cool Springs EE Center, New Bern (55 kids).
- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Directed first formal meeting of NC Prescribed Fire Council, Raleigh (20 attendees).
- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Reptile and Amphibian Ecology and Conservation. Cool Springs EE Center, New Bern (27 registrants).
- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Identification and Control of Invasive, Exotic Plants. Sandhills Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, Southern Pines, NC (20 people).
- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Do Vultures Kill Livestock? Randolph County Landowner's Association, Asheboro, NC (40 people).
- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Forest and Field Management for Wildlife. Lee County Forest Landowner's Association, Sanford, NC (20 people).
- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Forest Management Effects on Reptiles and Amphibians. Reptile and Amphibian Ecology and Conservation. Cool Springs EE Center, New Bern (27 registrants)
- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Wildlife Ecology and Management. Forestry Field Day. Lake Crabtree County Park, Raleigh (90 kids).
- Moorman, C. E.** 2005. Evaluation of NC CREP as Wildlife Habitat. National Farm Services Agency Review of NC CREP, Raleigh (25 people).

Presentations and grants.

Grants/Funding

- Moorman, C. E., C. S. DePerno, R. Bardon, and A. Kleist.** 2005. Evaluation of Wildlife Extension Programming. Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA). \$2,200.
(A. Kleist = graduate student)
- Moorman, C. E., and C. S. DePerno.** 2005. A Video Documentation of the Turner House Landscaping Project. Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA). \$4,671.
- Moorman, C. E.** Support of NC WHEP. NC Quail Unlimited. 2005-2006. \$1700.
- Moorman, C. E.** Support of Annual Fur, Fish and Game Rendezvous. NC Wildlife Federation. 2005-2006. \$2000.

Upcoming Events

Leopold Wildlife Club

The next meeting for the Leopold Wildlife Club will be Tuesday, August 23, 2005 at 7:00 pm in 2211 Gardner Hall.

Job Opportunities and Scholarships

Please see the NC State Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences website for additional information, current position announcements, scholarship opportunities, and links to job websites.

<http://www.cfr.ncsu.edu/for/fishwildlife/>

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If you have questions, comments, or submissions for the next issue please do not hesitate to contact Chris.

Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) studied by **Jennifer Thompson**. Her Dissertation entitled, 'Breeding biology of Swainson's Warblers in a managed South Carolina bottomland forest' investigated the breeding biology and nest-site selection of a population of Swainson's Warblers breeding on a timberland in the Atlantic Coastal Plain.



Laurie Smaglick Johnson

Contact **Dr. Chris DePerno** with questions or comments.