



## Forest Service, US Department of Agriculture

WATERSHED – FISH – WILDLIFE – AIR – RARE PLANTS ::: WFW

### MONTHLY WFW STAFF NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2008

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\* Click on the header to take you to this section of the newsletter.

**Federal job announcements can be found at:**

[http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency\\_search.asp](http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/agency_search.asp)

**[Submit your information](#)**

**[Disclaimer & Non-Discrimination Statement](#)**

## News:

### GENERAL/CROSS AREA

#### Transition Recommendations from Environmental Community

These recommendations to the President-elect have come across our collective electronic desks during November. Sharing the collection with you – no analysis or editorial comments from us.

[The Nature Conservancy \(TNC\) – Advice to President-Elect Obama](#)

[Transition to Green](#) – 29 Environmental Groups (aka “Green Group”)  
391page transition document wish list; pgs 4-23 to 4-31 cover the Forest Service

Natural Resource Defense Council: Press Release

[“Leading Environmental Groups Work with Obama’s Team to Tackle Top Issues”](#)

[Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies – Furthering Conservation in the Public Trust](#)

[Defenders of Wildlife – Wildlife Conservation Agenda for the Next Administration](#)

**Submitted By: Marc Bosch and Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW**

#### PEIS Released – Energy Corridors

The United States Department of Energy, the United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, and United States Department of Defense (the Agencies) have prepared a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) that evaluates issues associated with the designation of energy corridors on federal lands in eleven Western states.

Based upon the information and analyses developed in this PEIS, the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, and Defense could amend their respective land use plans by designating one or more of proposed energy corridors identified in the PEIS. This Web site is the online center for public information and involvement in the PEIS process. <http://corridoreis.anl.gov/>

**Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW**

#### Request for Forest Service Inventory & Monitoring Technology and Development Project Proposals - FY 2010

**DUE: March 3, 2009**

The annual Forest Service call for Technology and Development proposals has been issued along with a suggested form to use. The Inventory and Monitoring proposals are due by March 3, 2009, which gives you plenty of time to document a need in this area or network with your creative colleagues to solicit their ideas.

The Steering Committee is very interested in hearing from you, and looks forward to evaluating a diverse collection of proposals to help the Forest Service improve its natural resource information management performance. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

**Contact:** Doug Powell, dougpowell@fs.fed.us 202-205-1724

[Call Letter pdf](#)

[Project Proposal Request Form doc](#)

**Submitted By: Doug Powell, USFS/WO/EMC**

## **AQUATIC/FISH**

### **11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2009 State-Fish Art Contest Start your Fish Art!**

**Students in Grades 4-12 Eligible to Win Scholarships, Art Supplies & Fishing Gear**

**DUE: Entries must be postmarked by March 31, 2009**

Students across the United States have the opportunity to win recognition and prizes while learning about state-fish species, aquatic habitats, and conservation. The **Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Contest** uses art to catch the imagination of youth while teaching fisheries conservation. Winners will be announced May 1, 2009.

**To enter**, young artists nationwide must create an illustration of their chosen state-fish. A written composition on its behavior, habitat, and conservation is also required.

**Educators and Parents:** Visit the State-Fish Art website at [www.statefishart.com](http://www.statefishart.com) for complete details, contest entry forms and to download the **free *Something's Fishy* lesson plan**.

**About Wildlife Forever:** A multi-species non-profit conservation organization working to preserve America's wildlife heritage through conservation education, preservation of habitat and scientific management of fish and wildlife species. Working at the grassroots level, Wildlife Forever has funded conservation projects in all 50 states, committing millions of dollars to "on the ground" conservation efforts. To learn more visit [www.wildlifeforever.org](http://www.wildlifeforever.org).

**For more information** contact Pat Conzemius at Wildlife Forever, 2700 Freeway Blvd., #1000, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430, by email at [pconzemius@wildlifeforever.org](mailto:pconzemius@wildlifeforever.org) or call (763) 253-0222.

**Submitted By: Nick Schmal, USFS/R9/WFW**

## **SOIL**

### **Soil Project**

The White Mountain NF, in collaboration with NRCS, is using LIDAR digital imagery for detailed bare earth maps in its soil resource inventory process. This new technology has proven invaluable to more precisely inventory flood plain areas and the transition into upland areas and identify slope breaks with precision. The imagery shows in great detail the prior land use history such as old skid trails and roads than do current aerial photos or Digital Elevations Models (DEM). This effort is a unique pilot project using LIDAR and other geographical information system technologies to analyze digital datasets to strengthen field soil resource inventory.

[LIDAR ppt \(19 MB\)](#)

**Submitted By: Randy L. Davis, USFS/WO/WFW**

### **National Wetlands Awards Nominations Extended**

The deadline for 2009 National Wetlands Awards nominations has been extended to January 15, 2009. Help us celebrate outstanding contributions to wetlands conservation by nominating someone you know! Help Us Celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Wetlands Awards Program.

**The National Wetlands Awards Program** recognizes extraordinary individual achievement in six categories: Education and Outreach; Science Research; Conservation and Restoration; Landowner Stewardship; State, Tribal, and Local Program Development; and Wetland Community Leader. The winners in each category will be honored in a ceremony on Capitol Hill in May 2009.

The awards are administered by the Environmental Law Institute, and supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Highway Administration, NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and USDA Forest Service.

For more information, profiles of past awardees, or a nomination form, visit [www.nationalwetlandsawards.org](http://www.nationalwetlandsawards.org).

#### **Contact:**

National Wetlands Awards  
2000 L Street NW, Suite 620  
Washington D.C., 20036  
Phone: (202) 939-3862  
Email: [wetlandsawards@eli.org](mailto:wetlandsawards@eli.org)

**Submitted By: Randy L. Davis, USFS/WO/WFW**

## **THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES - TES**

### **DeWind Award 2009 Applications Now Being Accepted**

The Joan Mosenthal DeWind Awards 2009

The Xerces Society is now accepting applications for two \$3,750 awards for research into Lepidoptera conservation.

#### **Submission Requirements**

The DeWind awards are given to students who are engaged in research leading to a university degree related to Lepidoptera conservation and who intend to continue to work in this field. All proposals must be written by the student researcher. Proposed research should have a clear connection to Lepidoptera conservation and must be completed within one year from receiving funds. Applicants may be graduate or undergraduate students; however, please note that all but one awardee, to date, have been pursuing graduate research. Applications from countries outside the United States will be considered.

#### **Submission Deadline for 2009 Awards**

The submission deadline is Friday, December 19, 2008 at 5:00 PM PST. Award winners will be announced by March 31, 2009, with the awards given by May 2009.

### **Instructions for Submitting the Proposal**

All proposals must be submitted by email to [dewind@xerces.org](mailto:dewind@xerces.org). The proposal should be attached as a single attachment in one of the following file formats: Microsoft Word, RTF text, or PDF. The subject line of the email should read "DeWind Award Proposal."

### **Proposal Format (all text should use 12 pt font and standard margins)**

1. Cover page (1 page)
  - a. Title. List the title in CAPITAL LETTERS.
  - b. Contact information. Provide the name of the contact information for the applicant and his or her major advisor. Include institutional affiliations, complete mailing address, and country. Also provide an email address and telephone number (include country code if outside the United States).
  - c. Abstract. Include a project summary immediately following the title and contact information. The summary should be limited to 100 words and should not exceed one paragraph.
2. Proposal body (2 pages). Begin with a clear statement of the problem or objectives, follow with a clear methods section, and end with a substantial conclusion. The proposal should include a discussion of potential conservation applications and results, and what products, if any, will result from this work.
3. Additional information. On separate pages, please include all of the following information: cited literature, detailed project budget, timeline, and a CV (CV must be 2 pages or less). It is the goal of the DeWind award that the funds by used for direct research related expenses and thus overhead and/or administrative fees are considered ineligible.
4. Please include all of the materials as a single attachment.  
<http://lists.sonic.net/mailman/listinfo/pollinator>

**Submitted By: David Pivorunas, USFS/ WO/WFW**

## **WILDLIFE**

### **Award Nominations Extended**

Extension on award nomination submittal for Deer, Elk, Wild Turkey Awards - new due date is **December 12, 2008**. Please see Jina Mariani at [jmariani@fs.fed.us](mailto:jmariani@fs.fed.us) for more information.

**Submitted By: Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW**

## Coming Events – Conferences & Meetings:

### GENERAL/CROSS AREA

#### **9<sup>th</sup> NCSE Biodiversity Conference**

**DATE: December 8-10, 2008**

Registration: <http://ncseonline.org/conference/biodiversity/>

National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) Biodiversity Conference – “Biodiversity in a Rapidly Changing World”. Hosted at Washington DC, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center.

### WILDLIFE

#### **2009 International Conference on Ecology and Transportation (ICOET)**

[Call for Transportation/Wildlife/Fisheries papers.](#) The next conference will be Sept 13-17, 2009, in Duluth, Minnesota. Hope to see you all there!

**Submitted By: Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW**

## Technical Information & Publications:

### WATERSHED

#### **New Article! Distribution of Water Supply in US**

Brown, Thomas C., Michael T. Hobbins, and Jorge A. Ramirez, 2008.

Spatial Distribution of Water Supply in the Conterminous United States. (JAWRA) 44(6): 1-14.

New paper from Tom Brown (RMRS) and others updates statistics on where U.S. water originates. Conterminous = having the same or coincident boundaries.

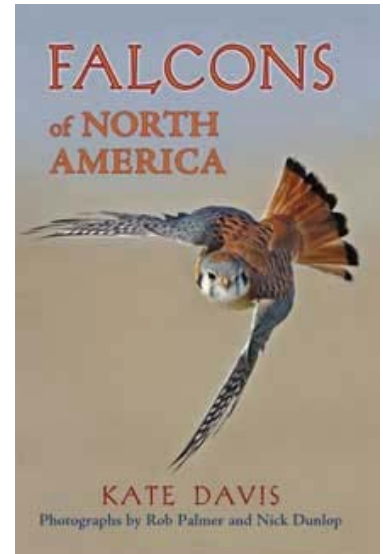
December 2008 Forest Service employees – contact National Forest Service Library (<http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/library/>)

**Submitted By: Sherry Hazelhurst, USFS/WO/WFW**

## WILDLIFE

### New Book: Falcons of North America

Mountain Press Publishing Company The new book, *Falcons of North America*, by Kate Davis, Director of Raptors of the Rockies, is now available. Emphasis is on the Peregrine Falcon, but all six North American falcons are covered. Book 'statistics': 240 pages, 12 pen and ink illustrations, 10 range maps, 9 sidebars, and species accounts of our six native falcons. Photographers Rob Palmer and Nick Dunlop are recognized as the best in the world, and combined they feature 140 images of falcons flying, hunting, and nesting. Kate and guests round out the total at over 200 photographs. A portion of book sale proceeds go directly to the Raptors of the Rockies educational program, buying quail to feed their resident falcons.



Contacts & Book Sellers:

[Mountain Press Publishing Company](#)

[Kate Davis - Raptors of the Rockies](#) – get an autographed copy!

[Buteo Books](#)

[Amazon.com](#)

**Submitted By: Jina Mariani & Christina Vojta, USFS/WO/WFW**

### "Sharing the Land with Pinyon-Juniper Birds" is now available online

Partners In Flight (PIF) publication entitled "[Sharing the Land with Pinyon-Juniper Birds](#)" is now available online as a downloadable PDF on the PIF website.

The easiest way to get to it on the website, is to click on "Other PIF Resources" and then click on "Best Management Practices". There is a link both under the Forested Ecosystems and the Shrubland Ecosystems headings to avoid any confusion.

Reference: [Gillihan, S. W. 2006. Sharing the land with pinyon-juniper birds. Partners in Flight Western Working Group. Salt Lake City, Utah. 39pp](#)

**Submitted By: Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW**

## Training and Tools:

## GENERAL/CROSS AREA

### WFW Continuing Education Program Updates

1. **SF182 completion does NOT mean you are registered.**

The AgLearnSF182 feature is not linked to AgLearn "Registration". Check your "Registration" tab in AgLearn or contact [Shelly Witt](#) to ensure you are really registered. We may cancel a workshop due to "low" registration only to find out people completed SF182s thinking that was all they needed to do. **Please share this bit of information like gossip** at coffee breaks and pre-meeting chats.

## 2. Monitoring Course – possible resurrection

On Monday (12.01.08) the “[Asking and Answering the Right Monitoring Questions](#)” course was cancelled due to low registration. Over the next few days a couple people called wanting to register. If you want to attend, contact [Shelly Witt](#) right NOW. We are working with the vendor to get back the facility/hotel reservations pending 12 registrations. January 28-30, 2009: Salt Lake City, UT

## 3. Climate Change – Integrated in to Wildlife Conservation & Monitoring

The [Wildlife Conservation & Monitoring](#) course is adding in a section on **climate change**. Register in AgLearn (2600); It is both online and onsite...not an either/or -- such a screaming deal

Online: January 26 - April 10, 2009 (sprinkled throughout this time period)

Onsite: April 13 - 17, 2009

Don't let the title fool you into thinking this workshop is only for wildlife biologists!

**It is has value for a variety of natural resource professionals.** Come think out side your box -- think critically about how habitat issues and concepts shape resource management at national, regional and local levels.

## **Introduction to Model Builder for Natural Resource Management - Online & FREE**

**Access:** FS employees Internal system only

Focus is on natural resource management-related topics and examples. It contains several modules, including: raster data, geoprocessing, components of a model, how to conceptualize and develop natural resource-related models, and how to customize your models using Python scripting. **A case study in invasive weeds habitat mapping was recently added.** You can access the course through GSTC's Training and Awareness. No registration is required, and you can proceed at your own pace.

**Contact:** Felicia Acrea, USFS, Geospatial Service and Technology Center  
Phone: 801.975.3735      E-mail: [facrea@fs.fed.us](mailto:facrea@fs.fed.us)

**Submitted By: Shelly Witt, USDAFS/WO/WFW**

## **Threatened & Endangered Species - TES**

### **FCAU Course Curriculum Changes**

**Course Dates:** March 18 – 19, 2009

**Nomination Due Date:** January 5, 2009 (for this course only)

The Fire Chemical Applications and Use (FCAU) course is being modified to include the most recent guidelines for delivery near waterways, requirements and updates in the reporting process in regards to Threatened and Endangered Species (TES) habitat, and to provide direction in the safe and effective use of fire chemicals in the environment.

**Contact:** Tim Peterson, National Advanced Fire and Resource Institute - NAFRI  
Office: 520-799-8757    Cell: 520-975-5427

**Submitted By: Marc Bosch, USFS/WO/WFW**



## **WILDLIFE**

**NOTE: FS employees attending any of the BCI training, please contact Shelly Witt. Shelly will enter the training into AgLearn for you.**

### **Bat Conservation & Management Workshops (BCI)**

Bat Conservation International's 2009 Bat Conservation & Management workshops in Arizona, Kentucky and Pennsylvania. For the sixth consecutive year, BCI is hosting an Acoustic Monitoring workshop to be held in Arizona. Below are brief workshop descriptions. Additional information and registration forms can be found on BCI's website: <http://batcon.org/workshops>.

### **2009 BAT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS**

Each year, Bat Conservation International (BCI) offers a series of comprehensive, introductory field workshops to train serious students of bat conservation in current research and management techniques for the study of bats. Following an intensive 6-day, 5-night agenda, participants will experience a combination of lectures and discussions, field trips to view bat habitat resources and hands-on training to catch and identify bats. Learn species identification, netting, radio-tracking, night-vision observation and habitat assessment while working in extraordinary settings.

An Arizona workshop in the Chiricahua Mountains emphasizes western bats. The Chiricahuas offer a biodiversity unequalled anywhere else in North America. You can expect to see, capture and handle as many as 18 bat species in a single evening, and then watch endangered long-nosed bats visit hummingbird feeders at your front door. Participants have also enjoyed spotting ring-tailed cats, coatis, and trogans. BCI workshop veteran Janet Tyburec, along with BCI biologists and professional colleagues will share a wealth of knowledge on species identification (including echolocation calls), bat conservation, management, education, public health and nuisance issues, artificial habitats and much more. We will stay at the American Museum of Natural History's famous Southwestern Research Station, where you will enjoy superb dining with researchers from around the world.

Two sessions: May 5-10 and May 11-16, 2009. Each session limited to 16 people.

Departure city: Tucson, AZ.

Cost: \$1,395.

A Kentucky workshop will focus on underground environments and their importance to bats, including the federally endangered gray and Indiana myotis. In partnership with the National Park Service at Mammoth Cave, students will explore cave habitats and learn to assess past bat use by identifying hibernation staining and quantifying historic guano piles. All fieldwork here is part of a vital, long-term inventory program for the Park Service.

One session: July 14-19, 2009. This workshop is limited to 20 people per session.

Departure city: Nashville, TN.

Cost: \$1,395.

Our Pennsylvania workshop highlights eastern bats and their habitats. We'll net, trap and release bats over trout streams and beaver ponds, observe endangered Indiana bats swarming at a mine entrance, watch 20,000 little brown myotis in a spectacular dawn return to their roost at a restored church and examine them up close. Workshop co-leader Cal Butchkoski of the Pennsylvania Game Commission is a leading expert on surveying and radio-tracking Indiana bats, as well as one of America's most successful builders of bat houses and other artificial roosts. Cal and Janet Tyburec, joined by local consultant John Chenger, will share a wealth of knowledge covering all aspects of bat conservation, management, education and public health and nuisance issues. Home cooking is but one of many unexpected treats at historic Greene

Hills Manor, our workshop headquarters.

One session: August 14-19, 2009. This session is limited to 20 people.

Departure city: Harrisburg, PA.

Cost: \$1,395.

### **2009 ACOUSTIC MONITORING WORKSHOP**

BCI is offering an acoustic monitoring workshop session at the Southwestern Research Station in Portal, Arizona. This workshop will cover hardware and software including Anabat and SonoBat and teach call identifications and how to develop a monitoring program. Participants will learn directly from software developers Chris Corben and Joe Szewczak, along with acoustic experts Sybill Amelon and Ted Weller. The format will be similar to BCI's Bat Conservation and Management workshops, combining discussions of current research with hands-on demonstrations and fieldwork. Each night, we will be capturing bats and developing call libraries so participants can return to their home study areas and begin their own projects armed with knowledge and experience. BCI will have equipment available, but participants are encouraged to bring their own systems. The Acoustic Monitoring Workshop is an advanced workshop designed for graduates of previous BCI workshops and/or experienced bat workers.

One session: May 11-16, 2000. Acoustic Monitoring workshop is limited to 15 people.

Departure city: Tucson, Arizona.

Cost: \$1,595.

Experiences at each workshop are designed to teach new techniques, refresh old ones and foster an interest in pro-active conservation, education, and research projects.

**Contact:** Peg Lau Hee, Workshops Coordinator at 512-327-9721 or [workshops@batcon.org](mailto:workshops@batcon.org)

**Submitted By: Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW**

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## Sharing Success:

### **Native Plant & Pollinator Garden in Milwaukee's Juneau Park**

[The Eastern Region is partnering with Milwaukee County Parks to create a pollinator & native plant garden in downtown Milwaukee.](#) A

Memorandum of Understanding between the Forest Service's Eastern Region and Milwaukee County has been signed and the beginnings of a Native Plant & Pollinator Garden is taking shape at Juneau Park in the heart of downtown Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



The Eastern Regional Office and Milwaukee County Parks have removed turf grass and planted hundreds of native plants and seeds to raise the awareness of the important ecological service provided by native pollinators such as bees and butterflies; the benefits of landscaping with native plants that reduce our carbon footprint and maintenance costs; and the need to control non-native invasive plants.

Non-natives such as tree of heaven, garlic mustard, common buckthorn, non-native honeysuckles and others were removed from Juneau Park and more than 40 species of native tallgrass prairie and dappled woodland plants were added. The park garden will be signed and interpreted and members of the public will be invited to volunteer their time and energy.

Plans are to expand this garden north along the heavily used Oak Leaf Trail, which skirts the Lake Michigan shoreline for several miles. Juneau Park, a beautiful and important green space in a busy urban environment, thus offers several important ecological messages in an illustrative form while providing very enjoyable recreational and stewardship volunteer opportunities for the public. Come join us!

**Submitted By: Jan Schmidt, USFS/R9/Botany**

### **Other Great Stories...**

[Wetland Expansion in Indiana Meets Many Goals](#)

Working together, several partners expanded a wetland on the Hoosier to provide multiple benefits.

[Guest Scientist Visits the Huron-Manistee National Forests](#)

Hydro-Geology Professor Dr. Paul Doss was a guest scientist on the Forests thanks to a partnership agreement with the Geological Society of America.

Read success stories at our **USFS Success Story Reporting System**. Have a USFS Success? Share it through the USFS Success Story Reporting System.

**<http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/ssrs/index.php> - NOW ON WWW!**

# Vacancies/Employment Opportunities:

## REGION 1

### **Kootenai Fish and Wildlife Program Manager GS-401-12**

The Kootenai National Forest F&W Program Manager Vacancy is now in USAJOBS.

USAJOBS ref#1391073

Open: 11/10/08 to 12/9/08.

This is a great Forest with many of good things going on for fish and wildlife. We are looking for someone really good who works well with folks. It truly is a great opportunity.

**Contact:** C. Quinn Carver, qcarver@fs.fed.us or 406-283-7695

**Submitted By:** Jina Mariani, USFS/WO/WFW

## REGION 8

### **GS-13 team leader for the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas**

This is an excellent opportunity for someone that wants to integrate TES species conservation with fire and forest management. There is a lot of potential here.

Vacancy announcement ADS09-R8-NFIT-0133FS (P-TS)

Supervisory Biological Scientist, GS-0401-13

Natural Resources and Planning Team Leader, LUFKIN, Texas

Announcement accessible at [www.avuedigitalservices.com/usfs/applicant.html](http://www.avuedigitalservices.com/usfs/applicant.html) or

[www.avuecentral.com](http://www.avuecentral.com)

**Submitted By:** Dennis L. Krusac, USFS/R8/

## **WFW Newsletter Contact Information: Disclaimer – Non Discrimination Statement**

*WFW Newsletter* is a monthly newsletter without a clever name and is provided by the National Forest System Watershed-Fish-Wildlife-Air-Rare Plants staff (including Soils and Meteorology) of the USDA Forest Service. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted to Netta Grant at [agrant@fs.fed.us](mailto:agrant@fs.fed.us) or your favorite Program Leader no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. We reserve the right to edit contributions for clarity and brevity. Emphasis is on brevity. Links to detailed URLs or documents are great – include them in your information contribution. If photos are included in your submission, please provide alternative text with each photo. Alternative text should not repeat captions but describe the scene shown in the photo.

If brevity and clarity are a struggle for you, we recommend the “[Plain & Simple! Document Writing](#)” workshop instructed by Dr. Jud Monroe.

Vacancy Positions listed are for outreach purposes only and are not full announcements. Interested individuals should contact the units referenced or consult the [USAJOBS website](#).

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