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The aim of this newsletter is to provide a regular report on the activities of the New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit. The mission of the Unit is to conduct applied research on natural resource issues, participate in graduate education, and provide technical assistance and training for natural resource professionals. The Unit is a cooperative effort of the U. S. Geological Survey, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Cornell University, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Wildlife Management Institute. For more information about the Unit call us at 607-255-2839 or visit our website: [http://www.coopunits.org/New\\_York/](http://www.coopunits.org/New_York/)

# NY Coop News

## NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK COOPERATIVE FISH AND WILDLIFE RESEARCH UNIT

Volume 2, Issue 2

August 2011

### NY Coop Unit Celebrates its 50th Anniversary!

The New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit turned 50 in 2011! Established on August 22, 1961 as a cooperative program of Cornell University, the then New York Conservation Department and the U. S. Bureau of Sport, and the Wildlife Management Institute, the NY Coop Unit has flourished over the past half century conducting research, providing graduate students, and offering technical assistance to its cooperators.

On July 28 and 29, 2011, current and former Unit students, leaders, and state, federal and university cooperators and their families came to the Cornell campus and Ithaca to help celebrate our anniversary. Our annual Coordinating Committee meeting was held on July 28th with a business session in the morning and student project presentations in the evening. The students did a terrific job (and our cooperators really enjoyed hearing about the black bear and trout studies we are currently conducting).

The celebration continued on July 29th with a 50th

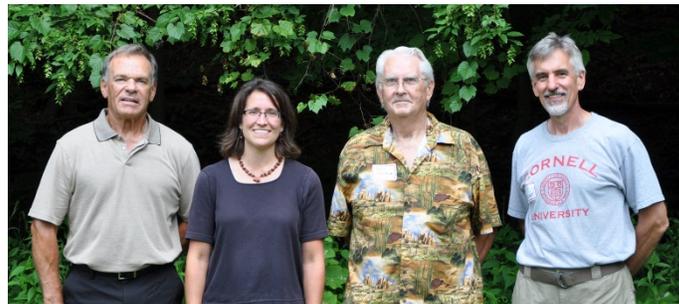
anniversary program in the morning and picnic in the afternoon. The theme of the morning program was "The Unit: Past, Present, and Future". Presentations were made by Bill Fisher, Unit Leader, on celebrating 50 years of success; Mike Tome, Coop Unit Supervisor, on the Cooperative Research Unit Pro-

were unable to attend. Those who attended the program were treated to some great stories and remembrances.

The picnic was held at upper Buttermilk Falls State Park outside of Ithaca. The gathering of current and former Unit students, Unit Leaders, Cornell faculty and staff, and families enjoyed Bob's

Barbeque and beverages on a nice sunny Ithaca day.

A total of 53 people attended the anniversary celebrations over the two days. Former Unit leaders and



Mike Richmond, Angela Fuller, John Nickum, Bill Fisher

students came from as far away as Arizona and California. We even had students come out of the field just to participate in the picnic. In all, the celebration was deemed a success and we only wish more people could have attended. As the Unit begins its next 50 years, we look forward to serving our cooperators as we work to manage and conserve New York State's abundant and spectacular natural resources—WLF

gram; Barb Knuth, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School at Cornell, on graduate education and the NY Coop Unit; Gordon Batcheller, Chief of Wildlife, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, on the relations between their agency and the Unit; Milo Richmond, former wildlife Unit Leader, on 40 years of Unit history; and John Nickum former fisheries Unit Leader, on the Fishery Unit during the 1970s. Also presented were email wishes from former Unit Leaders that

## Projects

### Trout Population Response to Water Diversion in Esopus Creek — T. J. Ross, M.S. Student

During summer 2011, T. J. successfully completed his last field season researching brown trout populations in the Catskill Mountains of New York. Cornell University undergraduate research technicians, Collin Farrell and Alex Koeberle, along with Ithaca High School senior Jimmy Todhunter, assisted T.J. in the field. T.J. and his crew tracked radio-tagged brown trout and conducted extensive stream habitat surveys. They also conducted mark-recapture sampling to track the condition of stocked and naturalized brown trout throughout the summer. In

September 2011, T. J. presented results from his research at the Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Seattle, Washington.

T. J.'s plans for the fall 2011 semester include: data analysis, writing of his thesis. He is helping Bill Fisher advise Alex Koeberle on an independent research study based on the growth of stocked and naturalized trout. Additionally, T. J. plans to present his research at upcoming conferences.

This project is funded by the U. S. Geological Survey with support from the New York State Department of Environ-

mental Conservation, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and awards to T. J. from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, Doris Duke Fellowship and the Kieckhefer Adirondack Fellowship.



T. J. Ross with brown trout collected in Esopus Creek, NY

### Improving Trout Stocking in New York State Streams — Alex Alexiades, Ph.D. Student

Stocking trout in New York streams provides recreational opportunities that are highly valued by anglers; however, there is recent concern by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) professionals that some trout stockings fail and stocked fish are never caught by anglers. We are working cooperatively with NYSDEC to assess the fate of stocked trout, and to estimate stocked trout natural mortality/emigration and fishing mortality, as well as angling effort and catch rates on stocked trout. This information will be used to update NYSDEC's model for estimating the number of trout

to stock. In spring 2011, eight streams were selected on which to conduct fish population estimates and angler surveys during the trout fishing season.

Alex Alexiades arrived in June and quickly began orienting himself to the project through field site visits, meetings with the NYSDEC, and reviewing project related literature and reports. He also designed protocols for analyzing the angler effort survey data this summer.

The field season was scheduled to begin in April, however, due to a wetter than average spring and unseasonably high stream flows, fish population

estimates at several study sites were delayed until May or June. Furthermore, the major flood events in August and September caused the late season population estimates in some study streams to be postponed or cancelled. Despite these field difficulties, NYSDEC crews were able to collect usable data from both fish population sampling and angler effort surveys, and analysis is now underway.

Currently, we are working together to further improve sampling methods, study protocols, and investigating potential streams to be added to the study in 2012. This project is funded by the NYSDEC.



Alex Alexiades wrestles with an eel collected from the Carmans River, NY

## Projects

### Biological Assessment of Environmental Flows for Oklahoma — Jason Taylor, Ph.D., Visiting Scholar

Using a stream classification based on eco-hydrological characteristics, we are identifying how altered flow regimes affect aquatic ecosystems, particularly fish assemblages. We are using publicly available streamflow information from USGS stream gages with existing fish collection records from University, State, and Federal sources to identify how flow alteration is linked to altered biotic communities.

During summer 2011, we completed the analysis of the fish assemblage database for each gauged stream site. Species were characterized based on functional groups (e.g. habitat preferences, feeding strate-

gies) to minimize the regional differences in species occurrences. Data were analyzed in groups of sites based on the degree of hydrologic alteration (e.g. reference, low, moderate, high), reference/altere, and geographic location (i.e. east, west).

These analyses showed that reference sites had significantly fewer lentic (i.e. lake) species than all levels of altered sites. The fish assemblages at the reference sites could be characterized as containing stream specialists that were intolerant to water quality and habitat alteration, and preferred faster flowing water. The altered sites had species with more

general habitat preferences, were tolerant of water quality and habitat alteration, and preferred slower currents. Ordination of the sites also showed differences in the fish assemblages and functional groups between reference and altered sites, and between geographical areas. We also conducted additional analyses of two streams in Oklahoma. A draft of the final project report was completed and is in revision.

This project is funded by the U. S. Geological Survey through the Science Support Partnership program in cooperation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services in Tulsa, Oklahoma.



Jason Taylor, Ph.D., Visiting Scholar.

(Former Postdoc, Titus Seilheimer, is continuing to assist with this project)

### Ecological Relationships of Black Bass Populations in New York Lakes—Christian Perry, Ph.D. Student

Smallmouth bass and largemouth bass, collectively known as black bass, are present in lakes and rivers throughout New York. The last comprehensive investigation of the status of these black bass populations was conducted in the early 1980's by David Green and others. Since then, much has changed in terms of fishing preferences. A 2007 survey of New York State anglers showed that black bass are now the most sought after species by anglers in the state. Moreover, tournament fishing

has seen a sharp increase in the last 20 years and anglers are more likely than ever to practice catch-and-release fishing. Accordingly, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has funded a project to summarize and update black bass population characteristics across the state of New York.

Christian Perry, a new PhD student at Cornell University who is advised by Bill Fisher, has begun the process of querying the extensive collection data available in the statewide

fish survey database to extract and summarize information related to New York black bass population characteristics such as relative abundance, relative condition and growth.

Plans are underway for meetings with the Black Bass Team, which includes a group of fisheries biologists and managers with NYSDEC and faculty and students at Cornell University.



Christian Perry at Maxinkuckee Lake, IN

## Projects

### Spatial Ecology and Movements of Black Bears in New York – Matt Adams, M.S. Student

We are evaluating black bear movements in relation to landscape characteristics (e.g., agriculture, human density, roads, topography, patch size) and evaluating habitat selection and temporal variation in space use between bears in anthropogenically modified landscapes and those in forested landscapes.

The 2011 summer field season was a successful one. With the help of 3 undergraduate technicians and 2 contract technicians, we captured 42 individual bears (8 adult females, 6 juvenile fe-

males, 13 adult males, 12 juvenile males, 1 male cub, and 2 unsexed cubs) during June-August, 2011. We had an average trapping success rate of 1 capture per 41.31 trap nights. As a result, we were able to deploy all twenty of our GPS collars (4 juvenile females, 5 adult females, and 11 adult males). We are collecting data from an additional 4 GPS collars (4 adult females) deployed by NYSDEC regional biologists.

In addition to fall class work, Matt is collecting and managing relocation data gathered from the GPS collars.

Matt is advised by Dr. Angela Fuller. The project is funded by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.



Matt Adams, M. S. Student

### Estimating Black Bear Density Using Genetic Approaches – Cat Sun, M.S. Student

Black bears in New York have been expanding their range and encroaching on agricultural areas and more densely human-populated areas. However, a rigorous density estimate of this growing and expanding population does not exist.

To estimate black bear density, we are conducting a non-invasive genetic mark-recapture study to collect black bear samples from barbed wire snares. Individual bears will be identified using a suite of variable, mitochondrial genetic markers. These data will inform a spatially-explicit model to estimate population density of black bears. This small-region study is conducted in south-

central New York, and will help direct future larger-scale designs.

This past summer, Cat conducted the first field season of the black bear mark-recapture study. The study area encompassed WMUs 8 and 9, including Steuben, Allegany, and Livingston Counties. A total area of 2,624 km<sup>2</sup> was sampled, involving 154 private landowners and 26 state lands, parks, and county forests. We set snares during the first 5 weeks of the study, and another 122 during the second 5 weeks. A total of 697 hair samples were collected at 110 of the 223 barbed wire snares sites over the course of 10 weeks. Three undergraduate

research technicians assisted in setting and baiting snares and collecting hair samples.

This fall, Cat will be in the lab extracting DNA from hair samples and conducting genetic analyses. She continues her work on trapping array simulations, and will also be developing the spatially-explicit capture-recapture models to estimate black bear abundance and densities.

Cat is working on this project with Dr. Angela Fuller, NY Coop Unit and Dr. Matt Hare, Cornell University, DNR. The project is being funded by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.



Cat Sun, M.S. Student

## Projects

### Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments—Chris Nadeau, M.S. Student

To establish priorities for species, landscape, and biodiversity conservation, we must first understand which species and habitats are most vulnerable to accelerating climate change. Evaluating the vulnerability and adaptive capacity for wildlife species is essential to develop effective management solutions in the face of climate change. To plan for climate change, state agencies must evaluate which species are at risk, which are less adaptable, and which may become rare, threatened or endangered in the future.

We will evaluate the effects of climate change on species of greatest conservation

need (SGCN) as identified in the NY State Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategies (State Wildlife Action Plan) and develop a method to rank their vulnerability and adaptive capacity.

We propose to produce a ranked list of Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the area/biome selected based on their vulnerability to climate change, a spatial projection of where each species is likely to be most vulnerable, and where climate change is likely to cause the most change across the area/biome selected.

Chris arrived in August and has been reading climate change literature as well as

investigating approaches that move beyond climate-envelope models.

Chris is advised by Angela Fuller and the project is funded by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.



Chris Nadeau, M.S. Student



L-R: Beth Bunting (Cornell), Matt Adams (NYCFWRU), Jeb McConnell (NYSDEC), Krysten Schuler (Cornell), Angela Fuller (NYCFWRU), Ron Newell (NYSDEC), Art Kirsch (NYSDEC)

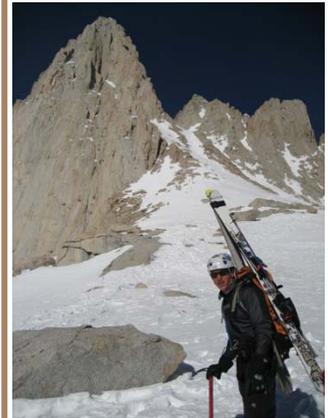
## Meet our New Students and Staff

### Alex Alexiades, Ph.D. Student

Alex is originally from Knoxville, TN. He studied Biology with a focus in Fish and Wildlife Management at Montana State University, Bozeman where he graduated magna cum laude in 2003. During his summers in Montana, Alex worked for Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks on Westslope cutthroat trout recovery efforts. After graduating, he pursued his passion for teaching and climbing around the world for four years, living and working in 5 different countries on three continents. He returned to the USA in 2007 to work as an ice climbing and glacier guide in Alaska, before he began a M.S.

program in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology at the University of Nevada, Reno. For his thesis research, he examined movement patterns, habitat use, and survival of Lahontan cutthroat trout in the Truckee River. While in Reno, Alex was a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Science Partners Fellow, enabling him to assist local high school AP Biology courses with their lab programs. After graduating with his M.S. in 2010, Alex worked for the USFWS in Reno and the Lake Tahoe area on various native species conservation and restoration efforts and taught Wilderness Survival Courses at

Truckee Meadows Community College before coming here to Cornell to work for Unit. Alex will be investigating the population dynamics of stocked brown trout for the NYSDEC and hopes to study the interactions of stocked trout with native species. In addition to his passion for climbing and mountaineering, Alex also enjoys backcountry and cross country skiing, mountain biking, surfing, and NPR.



Alex Alexiades, Ph.D. Student

### Chris Nadeau, M.S. Student

Chris comes from the Arizona Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research (AZFWRU) unit where he worked as a Wildlife Biologist since 2002. Chris coordinated numerous projects evaluating survey methods, management strategies, and the ecology of burrowing owls and secretive marsh birds while working at the AZFWRU. Some of these projects included: (1) evaluating the use of fire to restore early successional wetlands for two endangered marsh birds on the lower Colorado River, (2) adaptively managing water depth to optimize the abundance of two endangered marsh birds at Imperial National Wildlife Refuge, (3) coordinating the North

American Marsh Bird Monitoring Program, including field experiments to test monitoring methods, and (4) studying the evolution of clutch size and behavioral traits in burrowing owls.

Aside from his experience at the AZFWRU, Chris has a variety of other work experiences, including radio-tracking waterfowl and vaccinating raccoons and skunks against rabies.

Chris obtained a B.S. in Landscape Analysis with a focus on Geographic Information Systems at the University of Arizona in 2009 (while working for the AZFWRU). He also obtained a Fish and Wildlife Technician Diploma from Sir

Sandford Fleming College in 2000.

Chris is currently interested in spatial ecology, community ecology, biogeography, and wildlife population viability in the face of climate change. Chris will be evaluating the threat of climate change to Species of Greatest Conservation Need in New York, a project funded by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Chris is advised by Dr. Angela Fuller.

When Chris isn't working or studying, he finds himself cycling, mountain biking, kayaking, or hiking.



Chris Nadeau, M.S. Student

## Meet our New Students and Staff

### Christian Perry, Ph.D. Student

Christian's longtime interest in natural systems has culminated in his current research at Cornell studying population dynamics of black bass in New York's temperate lakes. Growing up in the suburbs of Denver, Christian began volunteering at the Denver Zoo as a high school student working with freshwater tropical fish. He attended the University of Northern Colorado, earning a B.A. in field biology and an M.A. in outdoor education. He was employed for 5 years at Geo-Eye, a commercial satellite imagery company and during that time, he earned a graduate certificate in remote sensing

from the University of Colorado, Boulder. He then volunteered with the Peace Corps assisting Mexican natural resource managers in the use of GIS and remote sensing techniques to support sustainable timber harvest.

After returning to the U.S., Christian completed an M.S. in Forestry and Natural Resources (with an emphasis in Fisheries) from Purdue University. His master's research involved comparing fish population characteristics across hundreds of glacial lakes to understand the relative importance of producer-driven processes versus biotic interactions in

structuring populations. He further examined how environmental variables from multiple spatial scales explain variation in fish population metrics.

Currently, Christian is using quantitative methods to assess black bass population dynamics in relation to fish assemblage structure and environmental characteristics across New York's temperate natural lakes.



Christian Perry,  
Ph.D. Student

### Jason Taylor, Ph.D., Visiting Scholar

Jason is a stream ecologist with diverse interests, including landscape and local controls on species assemblages, the effects of novel environmental gradients on species interactions within lotic communities, and conservation of freshwater biodiversity.

Jason received his BA (1997) and MS (2001) from University of North Texas and worked as an aquatic ecologist for the Nature Conservancy before returning to graduate school at

Baylor University where he received his PhD in Biology (2011).

Jason worked as an aquatic ecologist for the Nature Conservancy on ecological studies and conservation planning projects in Texas, Oklahoma, Kentucky, and Ohio, as well as international projects in Belize and Yunnan, China.

Jason is working with Bill Fisher in collaboration with the Nature Conservancy, to investigate ecological responses to

flow alteration in NY streams. The goal of this project is to establish ecologically-based environmental flow recommendations for Lake Ontario tributaries.

In his spare time Jason enjoys fly fishing and hiking with his wife Carla and son Carson.



Jason Taylor, PhD, Visiting  
Scholar

## Meet our New Students and Staff

### Maya Weltman-Fahs, Ph.D. Student

Maya Weltman-Fahs returns to her native Ithaca after 10 years spent in California, Hawaii, and New York City. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California—Santa Cruz (2005) and a Master's Degree in Climate Science and Policy obtained from Columbia University (2010).

Maya believes that water is arguably the most critical natural resource, and that hydrological research focusing on water quality and availability is paramount to the creation of

sustainable watershed management plans. Throughout her education, Maya has been interested in sustainable resource management from her undergraduate research projects in sustainable agriculture and agroecology to her Master's program on climate science and the potential impacts of climate change on hydrologic cycles.

Maya obtained experience and training in the application of GIS to natural resource issues during her graduate program and as an intern with the

U.S. Geological Survey, New York Water Science Center.

Maya is delighted to begin her PhD at Cornell under the advisement of Dr. Bill Fisher. She plans to examine water resource implications of natural gas drilling in upstate New York, using fish and invertebrate species as indicators of ecosystem health.



**Maya Weltman-Fahs, Ph.D. Student**

### Melanie Moss, Administrative Assistant

Melanie joined the NY Coop Unit this July and is a Business Operations Manager with a background in Accounting & Finance, Retail Operations and Audit, Publications Business & Distribution Management, and Public Library Management. Her commitment is to efficient flow of business and service to the unit and Cornell University.

Prior to joining the Unit, Melanie worked for 10 years at Cornell as Business Manager with the School of Hotel Ad-

ministration and the Statler Hotel, and as Publications Business Operations & Distribution Manager with the Southeast Asia Publications Department. She was most recently Director of the Waverly Free Library in New York.

When not at work, Melanie's interest in the outdoors involves her in recreational sports and organic gardening, and the indoor scoop is cooking, baking, the study of many interests, and most importantly

her family and "Duchess" her lab.



**Melanie Moss, Administrative Assistant**

## Activities

## Publications

Fuller, A. K., and D. J. Harrison. 2011. A landscape planning initiative for northern Maine using area-sensitive umbrella species. Final report to the Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. 133 pp. July 20, 2011.

## Presentations

Adams, M. C., and A. K. Fuller. 2011. Habitat and Spatial Ecology of Black Bears in New York. Invited presentation to the Steuben County Honey Bee Association. June 13, 2011.

Farrell, C.J., T.J. Ross, W.L. Fisher. 2011. Temporal effects of Schoharie Reservoir waters on physiological condition of upper Esopus Creek trout populations, OUB SILS Undergraduate Research Symposium, Ithaca, NY, August.

Fisher, W. L.. 2011. GIS in Fisheries: Why Place Matters. Invited presentation at Cornell Biological Field Station, Bridgeport, NY. 24 June 2011

Fisher, W. L.. 2011. Environmental Flows Project Methods. New York Sustainable Flows Project Workshop, Skaneateles, NY. 29 June 2011

Fisher, W. L.. 2011. Integrating GIS across disciplines: how the intersection of biology and geography has influenced fisheries GIS. 5th International Symposium on GIS/Spatial Analyses in Fishery and Aquatic Sciences. Wellington, New Zealand. 22 August 2011

Fuller, A. K. 2011. Improving the Connection of Science and Management: Structured Decision Making and Adaptive Management in the Cooperative Research Unit Program. Adaptive Management Conference Series, Auburn, AL. August 31, 2011.

Koerberle, A.K., T.J. Ross, W.L. Fisher. 2011. The use of radio-telemetry to evaluate Behavior, movement and habitat selection of brown trout in the upper Esopus Creek, New York. OUB SILS Undergraduate Research Symposium, Ithaca, NY, August.

Sun, C.S., A. K. Fuller, and M.P. Hare. 2011. Estimating black bear abundance in New York using non-invasive genetic approaches. Invited presentation to the Steuben County Honey Bee Association. June 13, 2011.



Unit Leader, Bill Fisher, son Daniel Fisher, and dog Zen



Asst Leader, Angela Fuller and Graduate Student, Matt Adams

## Activities

### Technical Assistance and Meetings

#### Bill Fisher

Fisher, W. L., and M. Weltman-Fahs. 2011. Marcellus Shale Multi-State Academic Research Conference, Altoona, PA. 10-11 May 2011

NYSDEC Fisheries Bureau Team Meeting. Albany, NY. 23 Jun 2011

USGS/NYSDEC Great Lakes Fisheries Meeting. Cortland, NY. 7 July 2011

Instructor, Motorboat Operator's Certification Course (MOCC), U.S. Department of the Interior, Oneida Lake, NY. 16-17 May 2011

#### Angela Fuller

Fuller, A. K., and C. S. Sun. 20th Eastern Black Bear Workshop. Hendersonville, North Carolina. May 1-4, 2011.

NYSDEC Bureau of Wildlife Meeting. June 22, 2011. Ithaca, New York.

20th International Conference on Bear Research and Management. Ottawa, Ontario. July 20-22, 2011.

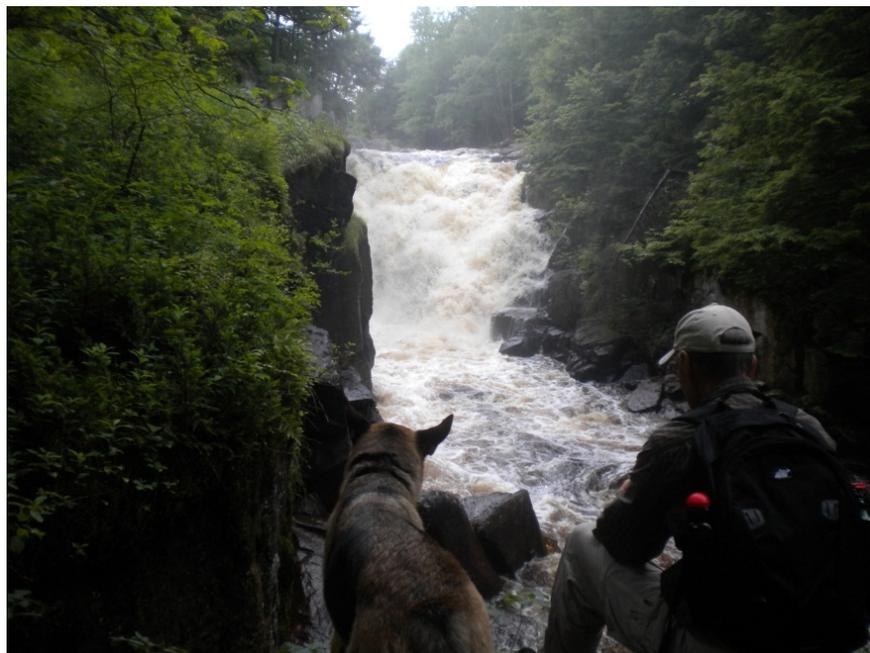
NYSDEC Big Game Team Meeting. August 16, 2011. Ithaca, NY.

NYSDEC Recovery Planning Meeting. August 23, 2011. Albany, NY.

Adaptive Management Conference Series. Auburn, AL. August 30-September 1, 2011.



Assistant Unit Leader,  
Angela Fuller



Unit Leader, Bill Fisher, enjoying Rainbow Falls on the Grasse River, Adirondacks, NY

# Coordinating Committee & 50th Anniversary Photos



(L-R) Mike Tome, T. J. Ross, Marianne Krasny, Melanie Moss Coordinating Committee Meeting, 28 July 2011



Mike Richmond, former Unit Leader-Wildlife, speaking at 50th Anniversary Program. 29 July 2011



(R-L) Gordon Batcheller, Phil Hulbert, Max Pfeffer, Alex Alexiades; Coordinating Committee Meeting, 28 Jul 2011



(L-R) Charlie Smith, Barb Knuth, John Nickum 50th Anniversary Program. 29 July 2011



Former Admin, Melinda Von Gordon and son Landon; 50th Anniversary Picnic, 29 Jul 2011



(L-R) Harlan & Evelyn Brumsted, Bonnie Richmond, Luciano Corazza, Fred & Pat Swan (backs); 50th Anniversary Picnic, 29 Jul 2011



**NY COOP NEWS**

Newsletter of the  
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Wildlife Research  
Unit

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**Upcoming**

**Assistant Leader for Ecology search.**—We are happy to announce that we hired Mitch Eaton as our new Assistant Leader, Ecology. Mitch is coming to us from Patuxent, where he is completing a postdoctoral position that is focused on several structured decision making projects. Mitch will join the NY Coop Unit on December 5, 2011. Stay tuned to our next issue of the NY Coop News for a full biography of Mitch.

**Structured Decision Making Workshop.**—Several managers and biologists from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will attend the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV in September to work on a white-tailed deer antler restriction decision problem. Angela Fuller and Scott Boomer (USFWS) will lead the workshop.

**Newest Members of the NY Coop Unit.**—We continue to add students and staff and are excited to see our Unit growing. This Fall, we will add two new postdoctoral research associates. Bénédicte Madon will arrive in late September and will be working with Angela Fuller. We will be hiring a second postdoc this fall, and the individual will work for both Bill and Angela on structured decision making problems for NYSDEC.