

## Inside this issue:

Adaptive Management Conference	1
Projects	2-7
Publications	8
Presentations	9
Technical Assistance, Training and Meetings	10
Staff & Students	11
Happenings	11

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 3, Issue 2

August 2012

### Unit Hosts Adaptive Management Conference

The New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, with Cornell's Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, and the Institute for Computational Sustainability, organized and sponsored the 2012 Adaptive Management Conference Series (AMCS), June 12 - 14, 2012. The meeting was hosted by Angela Fuller and Mitch Eaton of the NYCFWRU and Evan Cooch of DNR.

The AMCS is a yearly opportunity to bring together individuals from across the country and globe who are working with the challenges of optimal decision making, particularly as it relates to natural resources. The forum is used to showcase on-going adaptive management projects, demonstrate new methodological and computational approaches, and discuss the challenges of applying these state-of-the-art techniques to real management problems. The meeting is also a venue for discussing broader, philosophical issues including the incorporation of decision analysis curricula into graduate education and broadening the professional capacity of resource agency personnel to improve decision making.

This year's meeting was well attended with 43 participants. Joint sponsorship by the Institute for Computational Sustainability and the interdisciplinary involvement of faculty and students from Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management represented a milestone in the ~12 year history of the AMCS. Additionally, the meeting was attended by rep-



representatives from four federal agencies, including the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Geological Survey (5 Coop Units, 3 Science Centers, and Reston HQ), and NOAA, as well as several state resource management agencies and numerous universities.

The meeting opened with a plenary that identified the similarities and differences in management approaches using optimization methods versus resilience concepts. Paper topics included computational

approaches to address various forms of structural and observational uncertainty, the challenges of promoting structured decision making and adaptive management internationally, cross-jurisdictional and inter-institutional challenges, and understanding the drivers of human behavior to optimally protect threatened and endangered species. Case studies were presented on the adaptive management of native prairies, optimal fisheries management, optimal interventions to stop the spread of infectious diseases, managing socio-ecological systems, and trade-offs for private landowners and bird conservation.

The hard work and heavy thinking of the attendees were rewarded by two social outings. The hosts organized a reception at the Boatyard Grill on Cayuga Lake, and a dinner cruise from the Cayuga Inlet to Taughannock Falls gave the meeting participants a chance to see some of Ithaca's own natural beauty and resources. In addition to being talented with computers, some in the AMCS community are musically inclined and entertained the dinner guests with tunes on guitar, fiddle, and mandolin. —MJE & AKF

## Projects

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

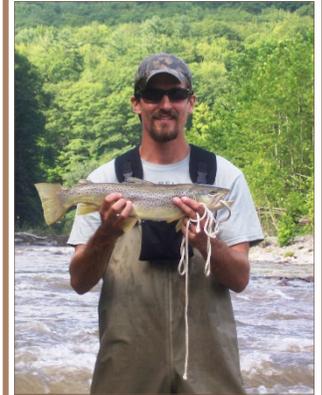
Trout populations in upper Esopus Creek in the Catskill Mountains of NY are affected by a water diversion from Schoharie Reservoir through the Shandanken Tunnel into the creek. The objective of this project was to evaluate the effects of the coolwater, turbid and high flow discharge from the aqueduct into the Esopus Creek.

Data analysis and report writing were T.J.'s focus during the spring and summer of 2012. T.J. summarized his research in two separate but related works, one on biomarkers of brown trout health and the other on trout habitat, movements, growth and condition.

In 2010, brown trout showed signs of stress at the secondary (serum chemistry) and tertiary levels (gill histopathology, water content) above, below and further downstream from the aqueduct portal; however, some of these biomarkers indicated fish immediately downstream from the portal were less stressed. Brown trout habitat, movements and growth rates were tracked with telemetry and tagging. These data revealed that during the summer of 2011 fish had similar activity patterns and condition and lost mass in all three reaches. However, fish immediately downstream from the portal lost less mass, which was the

reach with the greatest amount of optimal habitat for adults. The results of this project have implications for both water management and fisheries management in the upper Esopus Creek watershed.

This project is funded by the U. S. Geological Survey with support from the New York State Department of Environmental 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, M.S. student

*T. J. Ross successfully defended his Master's Thesis in May 2012 and took a position with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Michigan.*

### 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 trout stocking model.

During the spring and summer of 2011 and 2012, fish population estimates and angler surveys were conducted on eight streams around New York State, and Alex has been analyzing these data. Findings thus far have revealed that angler effort and harvest rates have decreased dramatically in these streams since estimates were made in the 1970s. Angler catch per unit of effort, however, has remained relatively constant compared to historical estimates. In some streams, mortality rates for stocked trout were found to be an order of magnitude higher than historical estimates, indicating a decline in stocked

trout survival. In addition to the NYSDEC project, Alex studied the effects of trout stocking on stream biogeochemical nutrient cycles this summer, which was supported by a Kieckhefer Fellowship he received from Cornell. Alex also has been mapping and measuring habitat in the field this summer and analyzing NYSDEC collected data. Additionally, Alex helped demonstrate the use of electrofishing for local elementary school children as part of Trout in the Classroom, an outreach program of NYS Parks and Trout Unlimited.

This project is funded by NYSDEC.



Alex Alexiades, Ph.D. student

## Projects

### New York Sustainable Flows Project — Jason Taylor, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Research Associate

Working in conjunction with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), this project is focused on developing information to inform flow recommendations for Great Lake tributary streams within NY and PA.

Jason and TNC conservation and freshwater ecology staff facilitated a workshop in June 2012 focused on generating flow-ecology hypotheses. Jason presented a synthesis of information on stream classification, target species groups, and known relationships with natural flow regimes to a technical working group made up of biologists from federal and state agencies, and universities. This information was utilized by participants through break-out

sessions to make suggestions for refinement of stream classes, and to generate hypotheses regarding how different biological targets respond to alterations in natural flow regimes. During the workshop, participants developed over 49 working hypotheses, which were organized according to taxa, season, and flow component.

Jason spent most of July and August consolidating the long list of hypotheses into a set of seasonal flow needs, and working on a systematic literature review (causal-criteria analysis) to build support for each hypothesis and its associated need. These seasonal flow needs will form the ecological

basis for recommending policies. Jason is continuing efforts to expand the scope of the environmental flow work in NY by participating in similar projects led by TNC in Pennsylvania. Jason is working with Conservancy staff from the PA chapter to use the causal criteria approach to synthesize results from several environmental flow projects into a core set of supported flow ecology needs for the NY-PA region.

This project is funded by a grant from the Northeast Regional Conservation Needs Program to TNC and Cornell. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is helping to administer this project.



Jason Taylor, Postdoctoral Research Associate

### 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, occur in lakes and rivers throughout New York State. The last comprehensive investigation of the status of these black bass populations was conducted in the early 1980s.

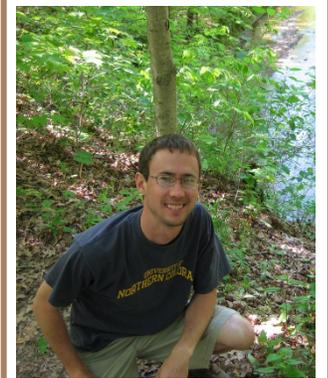
Christian has been characterizing black bass populations in lakes across the state using data from the NYSDEC statewide fisheries database. He has collaborated with NYSDEC biologists to finalize selection criteria for data to be used in summarizing black bass

population metrics including relative abundance, size structure, relative weights, and lengths-at-age. In a parallel effort, he is consolidating water chemistry and lake morphometric data, and data related to lake watershed characteristics from numerous sources to quantify the influence of chemical, physical and biological factors on bass populations.

This summer, Christian began placing the black bass population metrics and environmental characteristics into a hierarchical linear modeling framework (also known as

multi-level mixed modeling) to : (1) classify New York lakes into homogenous regions based on their bass population metrics and, (2) evaluate the influence of environmental explanatory variables at various spatial scales on bass populations. He has incorporated multiple existing regionalization schemes (e.g., ecoregions, drainage units, etc.) into these models to aide in classifying lakes by their black bass populations.

This project is funded by the NYSDEC.



Christian Perry, PhD student

#### New Arrivals

*Christian and his wife, Alysia, are proud parents of a daughter, Sienna Rose Perry, born August 1, 2012.*

## 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 2012 summer field season was another success. Between the end of the 2011 field season and the beginning of the 2012 season, Matt retrieved 13 collars that were previously on bears but had fallen off for various reasons (4 bears were harvested, 8 collars had hardware failures, and one

represented an unknown mortality event) and needed to be redeployed. Matt supervised a team of three undergraduate technicians and one contract technician, leading to the capture of 25 individual bears (6 adult females, 9 adult males, 8 juvenile males, and one unsexed cub). Trapping was conducted from mid-May to early August, and we were able to redeploy all collars (6 adult females, 9 adult males), including 2 that fell off while we were in the field. We had an average trapping success rate of 1 capture per 22 trap nights, which was significantly better than the 2011 effort of 1 capture per 41

trap nights. All 20 of the GPS collars are currently out on bears (11 females, 9 males).

Matt will continue monitoring the distribution and movements of the collared bears through November. During this time he will be analyzing the collar locations to evaluate bear movements and habitat selection patterns in south-central New York.

Matt is advised by Dr. Angela Fuller. This project is funded by NYSDEC.



Matt Adams, M.S. Student

### Estimating Black Bear Density Using Genetic Approaches — Cat Sun, M.S./Ph.D. 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 assist the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation with developing a management plan that incorporates both biological data as well as stake-holder input, Cat is conducting a non-invasive, genetic mark-recapture study of black bears in a portion of the Southern Black Bear Range in New York

using methods that could be implemented in the future for large-scale, state-wide designs.

During the spring and summer of 2012, Cat conducted her second and final field season in the study area that encompasses Steuben, Allegany, and Livingston Counties. Hair snares ( $n = 218$ ) were set for 10 weeks throughout the study area to collect black bear hair samples. During this field effort, she worked with 122 different private landowners and 26 different state forests, lands, and parks. She regularly shared progress updates with the staff at the NYSDEC.

Cat will be working this fall in the genetics lab to extract DNA from the follicles of the hair samples collected during the field season. She will also continue to work on the spatially-explicit, capture-recapture model to estimate population abundance and density of black bears.

Cat is advised by Dr. Angela Fuller, NY Coop Unit, and Dr. Matthew Hare, Cornell University. This project is funded by NYSDEC and a Doris Duke Fellowship awarded to Cat.



Cat Sun, M.S./Ph.D. Student

## Projects

### Implications of Natural Gas Extraction on the Eastern Brook Trout—Maya Weltman-Fahs, Ph.D. Student

Natural gas extraction from the Marcellus Shale formation is underway in PA and WV and is expected to commence in five counties in NY in the future. Maya is investigating the environmental ramifications of drilling activities on stream ecosystems using eastern brook trout, a declining native salmonid in the northeastern US, as an indicator species.

Maya and Coop Unit post-doc Jason Taylor co-authored a literature review article examining the pathways of potential impact between hydraulic fracturing activities, including infrastructural development, fracturing process, and wastewater disposal process, and brook

trout juvenile and adult life stages. The article is currently pending publication in the journal *Fisheries*.

During the summer of 2012, Maya collected chemical, physical, biological, and hydrological data in southern NY and PA streams. She selected the stream sites using spatial analysis techniques and publically available data, choosing highly forested watersheds with cold, headwater streams. The PA pilot study compares streams in a watershed across a range of gas shale drilling activities. The NY data will provide the potential 'before impact' information for research she will

be working on in the coming years.

Maya is currently analyzing data from PA to evaluate the pathways delineated in the conceptual model and examine potential correlations between instream conditions, trout populations and the density of gas drilling. Water and macroinvertebrate samples are being processed through the assistance of individuals in the Cornell Entomology and Biological and Environmental Engineering departments, respectively.

This research is being funded by the NYS Water Resources Institute. Maya is advised by Bill Fisher.



Maya Weltman-Fahs, Ph.D. Student

### Spatial Capture-Recapture Models for Carnivores—Bénédicte Madon, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Research Associate

To estimate the abundance and density of elusive carnivore species in New York State, we are using non-invasive genetic methods (scat and hair collection) to identify individual animals. We are extending traditional spatial capture-recapture (SCR) models for species known to use river and stream corridors. In our situation, the Euclidian assumption for the distance from trap to activity center in traditional SCR mod-

els may not be appropriate. Therefore, we are developing a non-Euclidian metric based on a shortest path approach using a cost function.

We employed scat detection dogs to locate mammals along stream corridors. A scat detection dog proved highly effective in locating scats during our 2012 summer pilot field study. We deployed hair collection devices as an additional source of data. We are using

the results of the pilot study and conducting simulations to select an optimal design for the full-scale study during 2013.

Bénédicte is working on this project with Angela Fuller (NYCFWRU) and Andy Royle (USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center).



Bénédicte Madon, Postdoctoral Research Associate

## Projects

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

Climate change is expected to cause large-scale ecological change that could dramatically affect wildlife. Hence, wildlife management agencies must develop rapid assessment tools to determine which species and areas of the landscape will be most vulnerable to climate change. Chris is working with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to develop a rapid assessment tool to: (1) prioritize the management of Species of Greatest Conservation Need in New York, and (2) identify highly vulnerable and resilient areas of New York.

In summer 2012, Chris developed formal proposals defining the scope and methods of his thesis research. While developing these proposals, Chris defined a new metric to characterize climate change that incorporates temporal changes in mean weather, annual weather variation, and probability of extreme weather; each of which can affect population dynamics. He also determined methods to test his proposed vulnerability assessment tool using recent range shifts of birds in New York State. He recently presented his proposals to faculty and staff from the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, NYSDEC, and Cornell University.

Chris will spend the fall incorporating feedback from these presentations into his proposal and further developing maps and metrics of climate change throughout the Northeastern U.S.

Chris is advised by Dr. Angela Fuller, and the project is funded by NYSDEC.



Chris Nadeau, M.S. Student

### Re-listing the Species of Greatest Conservation Need in NY—Kimberley Corwin, Research Support Specialist

Species assessments are being written in the first phase of the project to review the state's list of Species of Greatest Conservation Need, the backbone of the State Wildlife Action Plan. These assessments will provide a summary of the current status, distribution, threats, and population trends for each of the 537 species currently designated as Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the State Wildlife Action Plan. Once completed, the assessments will play a vital role in the second phase of the project, in which Structured

Decision Making will be used at meetings of species experts to determine whether a change in the species' status is necessary and justified.

The draft assessments for all 118 bird species have been completed and made available for comments from experts in the state. Assessments have also been drafted for all 28 mayflies and stoneflies, 10 beetles, 48 odonates, and half of the fishes. Species not already on the SGCN list can be nominated for consideration by the submission of a completed assessment form.

Meetings to review the status of the SGCN birds will be scheduled during the winter of 2012. Meetings for other groups will follow.

This project is funded by the NYSDEC.



Kim Corwin, Research Support Specialist

## Projects

### Structured Decision Making for Natural Resource Issues in NY—Kelly Robinson, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Research Associate

Structured decision making (SDM) is a framework that is increasingly being used to assess complex natural resource problems. Kelly is working to incorporate SDM to address fish and wildlife issues in NY. Kelly has been helping the NYSDEC use SDM to identify the best management strategy for reducing the yearling buck proportion of the annual white-tailed deer harvest.

Since April, Kelly has been continuing to develop a stochastic population dynamics model for white-tailed deer in different parts of NY state. This model will be used to predict how deer populations throughout the state will respond to changes in buck harvest strategies. The model

takes into account stochastic processes in the environment and in the deer populations and projects the population forward in time to provide estimates of buck harvest and the yearling proportion of the buck harvest under each of the proposed management alternatives. The model will provide a structured way to evaluate the different harvest alternatives.

Kelly has started working with the Human Dimensions Research Unit at Cornell to evaluate how hunters value opportunities to harvest different ages and sexes of deer, and how their satisfaction with deer hunting would be affected by the proposed harvest alternatives. Kelly has also been constructing a Bayesian belief net-

work (BBN) that will incorporate the results of the population model and the human dimensions aspects of the decision process. The BBN provides a framework for determining the optimal management strategy while taking into account uncertainty in the system.

Kelly is working with Angela Fuller on the white-tailed deer decision analysis research. Once the deer project is complete, Kelly will work with Bill Fisher on a fisheries project of importance to NYSDEC.



**Kelly Robinson, Postdoctoral Research Associate**



**Kelly Robinson (front of boat) capturing fish in Georgia**

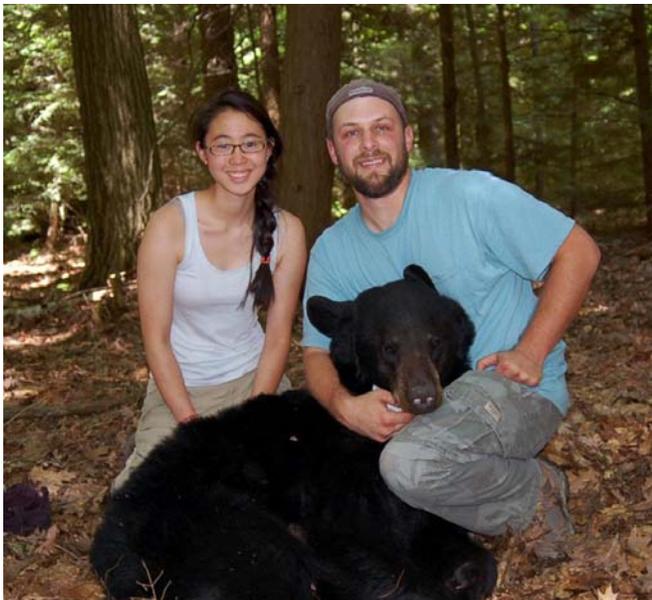
## Activities

## Publications

- Conway, M. A., C. P. Nadeau, and C. J. Conway. 2012. Intraspecific variation in reproductive traits of burrowing owls. *Ethology* 118: 395-402.
- Laurance, W. F., et al., including M. J. Eaton, 2012. Averting biodiversity collapse in tropical forest protected areas. *Nature*. 489: 290-294.
- Link, W. A., and M. J. Eaton. 2012. On thinning of chains in MCMC. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*. 3(1): 112-115.
- Fisher, W.L., Seilheimer, T.S., and Taylor, J.M., 2012, Biological assessment of environmental flows for Oklahoma. U.S. Geological Survey, Open-File Report 2012-1114. 43 p.
- Harrison, D., S. Olson, D. Mallet, J. Vashon, and A. Fuller. 2012. Relationships among commercial forest harvesting, snowshoe hares and Canada lynx in Maine. Pages 95-98 in B. E. Roth (Ed). Cooperative Forestry Research Unit: 2011 Annual Report. University of Maine, Orono, ME. 111 pp.
- Nadeau, C. P. and C. J. Conway. 2012. Field evaluation of distance-estimation error during wetland-dependent bird surveys. *Wildlife Research* 39: 311-320.
- Robinson, K. F., and C. A. Jennings. 2012. Maximizing age-0 spot export from a South Carolina estuary: an evaluation of coastal impoundment management alternatives via structured decision making. *Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science*. 4(1): 156-172.
- Taylor, J. M., J. A. Back, T. W. Valenti, and R. S. King. 2012. Fish-mediated nutrient recycling and benthic microbial processes: Can consumers influence stream nutrient cycling at multiple spatial scales? *Freshwater Science*. 31(3): 928-944.
- Stanley, C. E., J. M. Taylor, and R. S. King. 2012. Coupling fish community structure with in-stream flow and habitat connectivity between two hydrologically extreme years. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society*. 141(4): 1000-1015.



Mitch Eaton, Assistant Unit Leader-Ecology, enjoying a spring day on Cayuga Lake



Cat Sun and Matt Adams with anesthetized black bear

## Activities

### Presentations

- Alexiades, A.V. The Fate of Stocked Trout in New York Streams. NYSDEC Fisheries Bureau Management Team Meeting, Hamilton, NY, July 9, 2012.
- Alexiades, A.V., W.L. Fisher, and P.J. Sullivan. Brown trout population dynamics and angler behavior in New York: evaluation of a stocking model. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, St. Paul, MN August 20, 2012.
- Eaton, M. J. Presented an update of NYCFWRU research activities to the Inspector General, Dept. of Interior, Ithaca, NY. July 12, 2012.
- Perry, P. C., W. L. Fisher, and J. J. Loukmas. Grouping New York lakes by bass population metrics. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. St. Paul, MN. August 20, 2012.
- Perry, P.C. and Fisher, W.L. 2012. Black Bass Project Update. NYSDEC Fisheries Bureau Management Team Meeting. Hamilton, NY. July 09, 2012.
- Perry, P.C. and Fisher, W.L. 2012. Black Bass Project Update. NYSDEC Black Bass Team meeting. Cornell Biological Field Station, Bridgeport, NY. May 30, 2012.
- Robinson, K.F. and C.A. Jennings. Maximizing age-0 spot export from a South Carolina estuary: an evaluation of coastal impoundment management alternatives via structured decision making. Adaptive Management Conference Series, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. June 12-14, 2012.
- Taylor, J., T. Moberg, M. DePhilip, C. Apse, and B. Fisher. Integrating expert workshops and causal criteria analysis to develop general flow-ecology hypotheses for riverine fishes. American Fisheries Society, Annual Meeting. St. Paul, MN. August 2012.
- Weltman-Fahs, M., and J.M. Taylor. Hydraulic fracturing and brook trout habitat in the Marcellus Shale region: Potential impacts and research needs. Presentation at the East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop V. Frostburg, MD. June 11, 2012.
- Weltman-Fahs, M., J.M. Taylor, and B. Fisher. Hydraulic fracturing and brook trout habitat in the Marcellus Shale region: Potential impacts and research needs. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. St. Paul, MN. August 20, 2012.



The black bear team successfully collars a bear

## Activities

### Technical Assistance and Training

#### Technical Assistance

Fuller, A. K. Introduction to Structured Decision Making, 1-day training course for the U.S. Coast Guard, Washington, D.C. August 8, 2012.

Eaton, M. J. Led a workshop with USFWS and NPS on adaptive management planning for the restoration of the Herring River estuary, Cape Cod, MA. June 5-6, 2012.

#### Meetings Attended

Eaton, M. J., and A. K. Fuller. Co-hosted 2012 Adaptive Management Conference Series, sponsored by NYCFWRU, DNR, the Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, and the Institute for Computational Sustainability. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. June 12-14, 2012.

Eaton, M. J. Participated in the Cornell Integrated Deer Research and Management Program meeting, Ithaca, NY.

#### Courses and Training

Eaton, M. J. Participated in leadership training workshop sponsored by CALS. July 25-29, 2012.

Fuller, A. K. and M. J. Eaton. Taught Introduction to Structured Decision Making, National

Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV. August 27-31, 2012.

Nadeau, C. P., and K. F. Robinson. Participated in Likelihood and Bayesian Approaches to Data Analysis. Hosted by the Roosevelt Wildlife Station, SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry. 29 May – 2 June 2012.



Angela Fuller and Mitch Eaton with trophy king salmon caught on fly rods in the Salmon River, NY



Alex Alexiades discussing electrofishing with children in the Trout in the Classroom program

**NY COOP NEWS**

Newsletter of the  
New York  
Cooperative Fish and  
Wildlife Research  
Unit

New York Cooperative  
Fish and Wildlife  
Research Unit  
B02 Bruckner Hall  
Cornell University  
Ithaca NY 14853

Phone: 607-255-2839  
Fax: 607-255-1895  
E-mail:  
dnr-cru@cornell.edu

**Staff and Students****Unit Staff**

**Bill Fisher**  
Unit Leader-Fisheries  
B02 Bruckner Hall  
607-255-2151  
wlf9@cornell.edu

**Mitch Eaton**  
Assistant Leader-Ecology  
B02 Bruckner Hall  
607-255-4665  
mje57@cornell.edu

**Angela Fuller**  
Assistant Leader-Wildlife  
B02 Bruckner Hall  
607-255-2841  
angela.fuller@cornell.edu

**Bénédicte Madon**  
Postdoctoral Associate-Wildlife  
B02 Bruckner Hall  
607-255-4654  
jmt345@cornell.edu

**Kelly Robinson**  
Postdoctoral Associate-Wildlife/Fisheries  
B02 Bruckner Hall  
607-255-4648  
kfr26@cornell.edu

**Jason Taylor**  
Postdoctoral Associate-Fisheries  
B02 Bruckner Hall  
607-255-4644  
jmt345@cornell.edu

**Kim Corwin**  
Research Support Specialist-Wildlife/Fisheries  
NYSDEC, Albany, NY  
518-402-8965  
kjcwin@gw.dec.state.ny.us

**Melanie Moss**  
Administrative Assistant  
B02 Bruckner Hall  
607-255-2839  
mdm44@cornell.edu

**Unit Students**

**Matt Adams**  
Master's Student-Wildlife  
111 Rice Hall  
mca59@cornell.edu

**Alex Alexiades**  
Doctoral Student-Fisheries  
111 Rice Hall  
ava29@cornell.edu

**Chris Nadeau**  
Master's Student-Wildlife  
111 Rice Hall  
cpn28@cornell.edu

**Christian Perry**  
Doctoral Student-Fisheries  
111 Rice Hall  
pcp35@cornell.edu

**T. J. Ross**  
Master's Student-Fisheries  
111 Rice Hall  
tjr84@cornell.edu

**Cat Sun**  
M.S./Ph.D. Student-Wildlife  
111 Rice Hall  
cs752@cornell.edu

**Maya Weltman-Fahs**  
Doctoral Student-Fisheries  
111 Rice Hall  
mw482@cornell.edu

**Happenings**

**Highlights from the 2012 Coordinating Committee meeting.**—The 2012 Coordinating Committee meeting of the NYCFWRU was held on September 18, 2012 in Albany, NY at the NYSDEC headquarters. This meeting, which rotates annually between Ithaca

and Albany, brings together our cooperators from Cornell, NYSDEC, USGS, USFWS, and the WMI to review the accomplishments of the NY Coop Unit during the past year. Nine Unit students and staff, as well as the Unit Leaders, gave presentations about their re-

search to a large gathering of NYSDEC staff who assembled for the afternoon session. By all accounts, this was a very successful meeting and thanks go to Gordon Batcheller (NYSDEC) and Melanie Moss for helping to organize this event.