Here’s a touching thing I saw in a Department laboratory last week: an undergraduate researcher receiving help on her project from another undergraduate researcher and from one of the senior graduate students. All three of them are busy and accomplished students in their own right, but two of them generously gave their time to help a peer. This is one of many things we try to promote in addition to offering formal education in research, management, and conservation of natural resources. Our faculty and alumni know, and we hope our students learn, the importance of cultivating relationships, working as a team, and generously helping others. Especially at this time of year I try to remember, and remind, that by working together we can succeed in an enterprise that transcends our personal life stories in both time and impact on the world. We very much appreciate your help in sustaining this as a reality, and we wish you the happiest of holiday seasons! - Bill Karasov, Chair

Samuel Nitz (B.S. Forest Science 2004) contacted Prof. Ray Guries recently. Sam currently is Deputy Targeting Director at the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. He says that even though his degree is in forestry, the basic management and prescribing skills he learned in forest ecology and management have been invaluable in his career. (samuelnitz@gmail.com)

Margret Hatch (M.S. Wildlife Ecology 1996) was granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor of Biology at Penn State Worthington Scranton in July 2010. She began her position in the fall of 2004 after completing her Ph.D. at the University of Kentucky in 2003. (mih10@psu.edu)

Tim Aydelott (B.S. Wildlife Ecology 1984) sends word that in October he received a Rocky Mountain Regional Emmy Award for Desert Reef an independent documentary he produced. The film began showing on PBS in April 2010. It examines the relationship between ancient reef research, petroleum geology research and modern reef research and what this tells us about climate change today. To view a trailer of the film see www.timaydelottproductions.com (tim@timaydelottproductions.com)

Timothy Young (B.S. Forest Science 1979, M.S. Forestry 1983) was recently promoted to full Professor at the University of Tennessee, Center for Renewable Carbon where he has a 100% research appointment. He also teaches courses in statistical process control and data mining using advanced statistical methods. Tim received his Ph.D. in Natural Resources (Statistics) at the University of Tennessee as well as an M.S. in Statistics from Tennessee. Tim and his wife of 31 years (Anne) met while undergrads at the UW-Madison. They have two children, Elizabeth, age 23, and Steven, age 18. (tmyoung1@utk.edu)

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Alumni Update continued from page 1

David Moretti (B.S. Recreation Resources Management and Genetics 1977) serves in the Navy and is currently researching whale strandings. After graduating from UW-Madison, David obtained his M.S. at Marquette University in 1985. He has been accepted in a Ph.D. program at St. Andrews, Scotland. In 2009 David received Top Scientist and Engineer Award in Washington DC. You can read about David’s research beginning on page 58 at: [http://www.environ-avair.navy.mil.currents.winter2010/Currents_Winter_2010.pdf]. David and his wife, Jill, have been married for 29 years.

(morettidj@hotmail.com)

Department News

Van Deelen promoted to Associate Professor

Congratulations to Tim Van Deelen! This fall the Biological Sciences Divisional Committee unanimously supported promoting him to Associate Professor with tenure. Professor Van Deelen earned his Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology at Michigan State University in 1995 and joined the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology in 2004. He teaches courses on Animal Population Dynamics and Complexity and Conservation of White-tailed Deer. Prof. Van Deelen’s research interests are broadly the conservation and ecology of large mammals.

Scholarships honor memory of Terry Amundson

We’d like to acknowledge the benefactor of two scholarships awarded to graduate students Sam Meier and Chris Pollentier at the Ruffed Grouse Society Banquet in August. The scholarships were established in memory of Terry Amundson, an alumnus of the Forest and Wildlife Ecology Department who was killed in a car accident. Terry was the first wildlife disease specialist hired by Wisconsin DNR. Janice, Terry’s widow, established the fund to be used for scholarships awarded each year at the Ruffed Grouse Society’s banquet. We thank Janice for her generosity.

Forest and Wildlife Ecology makes quite a showing at The Wildlife Society meeting

The Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology was a prominent feature of the recent Wildlife Society annual awards program held at the TWS Annual Conference at the Snowbird Resort in Utah in October. Last Years’ Leopold Medal winner, Ron Libisky (M.S. 1956 and Ph.D. 1968 in Wildlife Ecology), presented a plenary session address. Ron is currently at the University of Florida. This year’s Leopold Medal winner, Doug Johnson, also has a degree from UW-Madison, although not from our department. Professor Emeritus Stan Temple was awarded Honorary Membership in The Wildlife Society for his “continuous outstanding service.” And Jerry Bartelt (M.S. Wildlife Ecology 1977) was presented the Special Recognition Service Award. The Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow Program, which involves several department members and was featured in the June 2010 FWE newsletter, received the Conservation Education Award. Congratulations to all...quite a showing for our Department!

Students benefit from new field equipment

Thanks to a grant secured by Professors John Cary and Scott Lutz students are enjoying the use of some new equipment. Students enrolled in Research Management Techniques, the Wildlife Research Capstone course, and the Kemp Field course during summer 2010 all enjoyed using the new equipment. This fall our students used new Reconyx digital cameras to estimate 27 deer reside in the UW Arboretum Grady Tract. They also used spotting scopes purchased from Eagle Optics to identify waterfowl during surveys of University Bay. New radio transmitters allowed students to mark raccoons and wild turkeys and then radio-track them with antennas and receivers purchased from Advanced Telemetry Systems. The students were very appreciative of being able to use quality equipment during their labs.

FWE 561 students used digital cameras to survey deer populations in the Grady Tract, UW Arboretum during Fall 2010. Students use buck antler characteristics as a “mark,” then use mark/recapture approaches for estimating buck numbers and the ratio of bucks to antlerless deer to estimate the number of deer in the Grady Tract.
Happy Holidays!

From all of us in the Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology
We enjoy hearing from you!

We’d like to hear what’s new with you, your career, family, etc. Drop us a note and include your name, degree and year, and any news you’d like to share with us. Please send your email to Mary Miron at:

<mjmiron@wisc.edu>
or drop a hard copy in the mail to the return address above.

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Forest and Wildlife Ecology Fund

We invite you to join us in our efforts to provide support for important department priorities. Proceeds will be used to support student travel to professional meetings, help cover the costs of the summer field camp and the southern trip, and to renovate work space in Russell Labs.

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