

Katherine E. Brashear

Katie Brashear received her double Bachelor of Science Degrees in Biology and Wildlife Management from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. She will receive her Masters Degree, also from UWSP, in Natural Resource Management with an emphasis in Wildlife in mid-May 2006.

Katie has worked in both outreach and research positions in Illinois, Wyoming, Colorado, Wisconsin (Necedah National Wildlife Refuge), and Upper Michigan.

Following graduation, Katie will be completing contract field work for the Ottawa National Forest while searching for that "holy grail" - full-time permanent job in the western Upper Peninsula. Today, Katie is presenting her graduate research focusing on "Variation in Bird Communities Among Silvicultural Treatments in Northern Hardwood Forests."

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Karen T. Cleveland

Karen received her Bachelors and Master of Science Degrees in Wildlife Biology from Michigan State University. She also received an MS Degree in Computer Science at Michigan State.

For her Master's thesis, she developed visibility correction factors for the Breeding Waterfowl Survey as well as models of production of waterfowl based on the results of the Survey.

She spent 5 years working for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department as the Data Manager for the Wildlife Division where she worked on projects dealing with everything from moose to peregrine falcons to nuisance yetis.

She has been with the Michigan DNR for a year and a half as the Wildlife Division's All Bird Specialist and has been deeply involved with the state's Wildlife Action Plan, the second edition of the Michigan Breeding Bird Atlas, and the Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative, among other things.

Karen T. Cleveland
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Greg Corace

Greg Corace is Refuge Forester, Seney National Wildlife Refuge. Greg's major duties at Seney NWR include the formulation and establishment of Refuge land management goals and objectives, primary management responsibility for Kirtland's Warbler Wildlife Management Area (6,500 acres across northern Lower Michigan), and primary contact for-and initiator of-Refuge research pertaining to upland ecosystems.

In meeting these duties, Greg has coordinated systematic forest surveys and inventories to determine areas in need of restoration within the context of neotropical bird conservation and has conducted on-the-ground stand-level forest restoration treatments for the same.

He has also worked extensively with fire and habitat management plans for the future preservation, protection, and enhancement of Refuge ecosystems and has functioned as Refuge contact with numerous cooperators from academia, other State and Federal agencies, and other offices of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Greg has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Zoology (Northern Michigan University), a Master of Science in Biology (Northern Michigan University, East African freshwater crab taxonomy and systematics), and is completing his Ph.D. research in openland bird biogeography and conservation biology (Michigan Technological University).

Greg was also a Peace Corps Volunteer (Botswana).

Jerry W. Edde

Jerry Edde has worked most of his professional career as a wildlife and fisheries biologist on the Ottawa National Forest. He started on the Ottawa in 1978 and has worked as a district fisheries biologist, district wildlife biologist, forest wildlife biologist, and forest fisheries biologist, his present position.

Jerry was instrumental in the introduction of peregrine falcons to the Upper Peninsula, and in cooperation with the MDNR Fisheries Division, the deployment of some innovative fisheries habitat restoration techniques including “skybooms,” spawning reefs and riffles, sediment basins, riparian tree planting, wedge dams, and his latest contribution---Elwood (not from the Blues Brothers).

Degrees: BS, MS Central Missouri State University

Today Jerry will be presenting data from a long-term monitoring effort he helped initiate on the Ottawa—the Annual Nesbit Lake Breeding Bird Census which is in its 15th year this spring.

He will be retiring June 23, 2006.

Hobbies:

Fishing (including the St. Mary's River at Sault Ste. Marie).

Training my drahtarr, and hunting ducks and pheasants with her in North Dakota.

David N. Ewert

Dave Ewert became Director of Conservation Science for the Great Lakes Program of The Nature Conservancy in 2001; his role is to coordinate and initiate science-based work that furthers conservation throughout the Great Lakes area. Current areas of focus include evaluation of winter habitat of the Kirtland's Warbler in The Bahamas, protection of stopover sites for migratory birds in the Great Lakes region, and Great Lakes coastline and island protection.

Before assuming the Great Lakes program position, Dave was Director of the Science and Stewardship Program of the Michigan Chapter of The Nature Conservancy from 1985-2001.

From 1983-1985 he was Director of Land Stewardship for the Iowa Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. He has served as a fire manager for The Nature Conservancy and worked on a wide range of conservation topics, including invasive species and forest management.

Prior to his work with The Nature Conservancy, he was an Assistant Professor at Central Michigan University where he is now an Adjunct Associate Professor.

Dr. Ewert received his Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Michigan, and his Masters and Ph.D. from the City University of New York.

He has taught courses in Ornithology, Ecology, Conservation and Biology and conducted research on birds in Michigan, New York, the Virgin Islands, Bahamas and Venezuela. He has published a number of technical papers as well as articles on birds for natural history magazines. He has traveled widely throughout the West Indies, Central and South America to work on research and conservation projects.

He has served as a director, trustee or advisory board member of several natural resources-related organizations in Michigan and nationwide.

Theresa Grattan

Theresa graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelors Degree in Fisheries & Wildlife Management.

She began her career as a summer park interpreter working for the Michigan DNR at Holland State Park. She stayed in Holland and worked at a city-run nature center for two years as a naturalist.

Since then she has worked for the DNR at various state parks in southeast Michigan and most recently as the new park interpreter at Tahquamenon Falls.

She has worked on research projects including PCB contamination in great horned owls, and nesting behavior of house wrens. Her primary experience and expertise is in outdoor interpretation.

Theresa Grattan
Park Interpreter
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Kimberly R. Hall

Kimberly R. Hall is a conservation ecologist interested in integrating conservation of songbirds into forest management, and in predicting potential effects of climate change on vertebrates.

Kim did her masters and doctoral work at the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment, and is currently a visiting assistant professor in the Departments of Forestry and Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State.

She has conducted research on songbirds in forested uplands and wetlands in Michigan, including an assessment of techniques for improving sampling efficiency, and an evaluation of the effects of overabundant deer on songbirds that use understory habitats.

Currently, Kim is working on two projects:

One is with a team at Michigan State University that is developing an ecological/economic model that integrates the effects of harvest and deer density on forest regeneration, songbird biodiversity, and economic values.

Her other current project is working with a team organized by Conservation International on assessing potential impacts of climate change on species in California.

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Sherry MacKinnon

Sherry is currently a Wildlife Ecologist with Michigan DNR in Newberry

Bachelor of Science, Resource Ecology- University Michigan
Master of Science, Conservation Biology- Central Michigan University

Her work primarily involves landscape level planning, implementation and monitoring for the Eastern Upper Peninsula which includes working with species of greatest conservation need and their habitats.

Her graduate research concentrated on determining what abiotic aspects of restored wetlands best predicted their use by birds.

I am not an ornithologist and have to relearn warblers every year just like the average Joe!

Sherry Martine MacKinnon
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Steve Sjogren

Field Trip Option 2 is being lead by Steve Sjogren.

Steve has been a wildlife biologist with the Hiawatha National Forest since 1990.

Before that he was with the Huron-Manistee National Forest for 10 years.

Steve specializes in pine barrens ecosystems and prescribed burning methods.

He is on the Kirtland's warbler recovery team and an active member of The Wildlife Society.

Steve has a Bachelor of Science in forestry from the University of Michigan and a Masters in biology from Northern Michigan University.