



June 17, 2024

Hello, GDPE community!

As the days get hotter, what better way to spend your time than hanging out by the river? Next week on Saturday, June 29th, [Diversify Whitewater](#) is putting on a free community rafting event and they are looking for volunteers to help out! This nonprofit, founded by GDPE student Lily Durkee, aims to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in paddlesports by increasing accessibility for BIPOC and Allies. This will be their 5th annual community river float on the Cache la Poudre River, and it's sure to be a great time.

You can [sign up to volunteer](#) as a raft guide, safety boater, photographer, or on-shore support. As a thank-you, on-land volunteers will have the opportunity to go rafting after work on Thursday, June 27th. And, as an added bonus, all volunteers will get free Starbucks coffee, breakfast, and lunch. Please consider volunteering to support this awesome community event!

Cheers,
Lizzy Rylance
GDPE Sci Comm Fellow

A Note About the Digest: Since this digest comes from a non-CSU email address, you may need to click "trust content from this external sender" in Outlook to see images, or you could be missing important information each week!



GDPE Event Calendar

GDPE EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diversify Whitewater Community River Float
[Diversify Whitewater](#), a nonprofit working to promote diversity in paddlesports, is partnering with the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas and Rocky Mountain Adventures to hold a free rafting event for the Northern Colorado community. Event volunteers are needed to help guide rafts, set safety, and help with on-land tasks such as check-in and photography--consider volunteering if you are interested! On-land volunteers will have the chance to go

rafting after work on Thursday, June 27 as a thank-you.

Date: Saturday, June 29, 2024
Meeting time: 7-7:30am (for volunteers); 8:30am (for participants) at **Picnic Rock**
Registration: [Click here](#)
Español: [Registrarse aquí](#)

GDPE Alum wins prestigious George Mercer Award

The Ecological Society of America (ESA) recently presented the prestigious George Mercer Award to Megan Vahsen, a former GDPE student in Ruth Hufbauer's research group who is now a postdoctoral fellow at Utah State University. The award is presented annually for an outstanding ecological research paper published by an early-career lead author. Vahsen and her co-authors received the award for a [paper](#) published in Science, titled "Rapid plant trait evolution can alter coastal wetland resilience to sea level rise". The study explores the role of rapid evolution in shaping how ecosystems respond to global change.



Megan Vahsen, GDPE alum and recipient of the ESA's 2024 George Mercer Award

GDPE Summer Sports League

The summer sports league is a fun way for students to connect over casual sports like beach volleyball, ultimate frisbee, kickball, and more. We will meet every Monday from 5-7 pm, typically in front of the CSU Rec Center (this could change, so check your email for updates!) If the weather is bad, we often meet for a happy hour at a nearby bar or brewery instead. Friends and plus-ones are welcome!

Call for ECOL 592 Submissions

GDPE is seeking a few more proposals for our ECOL592 seminars for Fall 2024. ECOL 592 seminar courses are flexibly organized to address cutting-edge issues in ecology. While typically taught by GDPE faculty, graduate students or post-docs may submit

proposals to serve as co-instructors with a faculty sponsor. This is an excellent opportunity for students to pursue studies in specific topics, and thus, are encouraged to recruit a faculty member to lead a seminar. Students are currently trying to fill out their schedules for this fall, so please consider submitting a proposal sooner rather than later. Previous seminars can be found [here](#) and the submission form can be accessed [here](#).



CALL FOR ECOL 592 SUBMISSIONS
Fall 2024

Scan to access the submission form

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM IN ECOLOGY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

CSU EVENTS & ECOLOGY CONFERENCES

CSU Graduate Student Showcase

The Graduate Student Showcase will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in the LSC. At this interdisciplinary event graduate students grow their communication skills, compete for awards, network, and showcase their hard work. The call for abstracts will begin on August 26 and the call will remain open until capacity is reached, or through October 4. Graduate students from diverse fields of study can participate at the GradShow. Abstracts are accepted for visual and performing arts, research, and entrepreneurial work. Thanks to the generosity of many sponsors, including all eight colleges, students will be competing for an anticipated \$20K in scholarship awards in a variety of categories — inclusive of research, entrepreneurship, and creativity.

GRADUATE STUDENT SHOWCASE
November 20

Share your Recent Publication or Research Highlight

FALL 2024 COURSES

BZ 560: Teaching and Communicating Science

Do you want to...

Communicate
science in
engaging ways

Teach science
using inclusive
pedagogy

Support inquiry-
based science
learning in
different contexts

Create a science
teaching portfolio
(for TILT Graduate
Teaching Certificate)



Credits: 3

When: Fall 2024, T/R 9:30-10:45

Where: NESB 302B

Instructor: Meena Balgopal (Biology)

For whom: Graduate or upper-division Undergraduate science majors Meena.Balgopal@colostate.edu



BZ 560: Teaching and Communicating Science

Tuesday/Thursday from 9:30 - 10:45 am

Instructor: Meena Balgopal

Nature of science, scientific reasoning, scientific argumentation, communication theories, and instructional strategies are explored. Develop science argumentation and communication skills in undergraduate courses and in informal settings. Create materials for a professional portfolio.

Advanced Topics: FW 561C Population Analysis (1 credit)

When: *Wednesdays 11-12*

Where: *Microbiology A 113*

The Species Status Assessment Framework

Instructors: Dr. William Kendall, Assistant Unit Leader, U.S. Geological Survey Colorado Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and Assistant Professor, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology (William.Kendall@colostate.edu)

Dr. Robin Russell, Biologist, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (robin_russell@fws.gov)



FW 561C: Population Analysis

Wednesday from 11am-12pm

Instructors: William Kendall, Robin Russell

This course is a one-time offering to introduce students to the Species Status Assessment Framework used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Students will be actively engaged with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service scientists in the writing of Species Status Assessments for a select number of species. Learn from USFWS practitioners, develop team building and writing skills, and participate in the process of providing the foundational science for informing Endangered Species Act (ESA) decisions.

JOBS, GRANTS, & INTERNSHIPS

Interdisciplinary Biologist / Physical Scientist (Climate Adaptation Service Scientist)

The USGS Climate Centers are hiring multiple 10-year term 12/13 positions. It is anticipated that up to five positions will be filled in a federal government office space or a CASC consortium member's space. However, additional selections may be made. The duty locations will be determined upon hire. As a Climate Adaptation Service Scientist within the National Climate Adaptation Science Center, some of your duties will include: Leading scientific studies on projected climate change and its impacts to fish, wildlife, and ecosystems of regional and national importance.

Developing scientific publications that effectively communicate study methods and results to natural resource managers. Developing methods and tools to access, visualize, and interpret complex climate and climate impacts data. [Click here](#) for more information.

Research Avian Ecologist at USGS FORT Science Center

Conduct avian ecology research and create management questions in collaboration with other scientists and managers in order to investigate broad-scale changes to avian populations. This includes developing research; securing research funds; setting up experiments; hiring and training technicians; collecting field data; and using advanced statistical and empirical modeling approaches to analyze and publish research results. This information will be used to develop decision support tools for planning and implementation of management, conservation, and restoration activities. [Click](#)

[here](#) for more information and to apply.

PhD Research Assistantship in Quantitative Ecology at North Carolina State University

Ph.D. Graduate Research Assistantship in Geospatial Analytics/Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at NC State University available for Fall 2024, January 2025, or Fall 2025. Ph.D. student would develop a suite of integrated species distribution models (iSDMs) at multiple spatial scales for a range of federally listed aquatic species (fish, mussels, and amphibians) in the southeastern U.S. to inform recovery. This would include estimating environmental drivers of distribution and abundance and identifying areas of potential recovery actions. The student would have flexibility to explore a range of research questions related to hierarchical modeling, data integration, multi-species modeling, and decision support and be apart of the Quantitative Ecology Lab at NC State (quantecolab.com) working with Dr. Krishna Pacifici. Please address any questions to Dr. Krishna Pacifici (jkpacifi@ncsu.edu).

USGS biogeochemistry field-lab position in Corvallis, Oregon

A position to run Steve Perakis' USGS Biogeochemistry Lab on the campus of Oregon State University is currently open and available. This is a USGS federal position in Corvallis, Oregon. It is advertised as "Chemist GS-9" with opportunities for involvement in diverse field-based research in ecosystem science, primarily in forests, with a significant component of lab management and sample analysis. Current projects include studies of wildfire impacts, soil fertility and carbon storage, soil mineral weathering, and biological nitrogen fixation. Please direct potential applicants to the link below. Federal job - US Citizens only. Questions about eligibility should be directed to USGS HR (mwankel@usgs.gov). Questions about daily duties and associated research can be directed to me (sperakis@usgs.gov). This is "Chemist GS-9" position currently salaried at \$64,504. **Applications are due June 28, 2024.**

CSFR Summer Intern opportunity

Larimer County would like to hire a temporary summer intern to complete a Plans and Policies Inventory that aligns with the work of the [Climate Smart Future Ready](#) initiative. The County currently has 15 action teams working on nearly 100 tactics that may have plans or policies that align with these efforts. This summer internship offers \$3,000 to identify regional plans and policies that will impact the Climate Smart Future Ready (CSFR) initiative, assembling the inventory into a structure that identifies the alignment, conflicts, and possibly gaps related to the various aspects of CSFR such as land use, resilience, transportation, utilities, open spaces, natural areas. Contact Heidi Pruess (pruesshb@co.larimer.co.us) for details.

Fellowship Opportunity: Cornell K. Lisa Yang Center for Wildlife Health

Fellows will be selected for their commitment to generating solid science and 'decision maker-friendly' policy guidance to catalyze sustainable conservation impact through a health lens, with an emphasis on progress through partnerships. The fellowship is a full-time position based in Ithaca, New York, with fieldwork in most cases. Salary will be commensurate with experience, within a range established for the [Cornell K. Lisa Yang Wildlife Health Fellows Program](#) (starting at \$65,000-\$85,000). The Fellow will propose a program of work in collaboration at least two mentors at any given time, one from the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine affiliated with the Cornell K. Lisa Yang Center for Wildlife Health, and the other from any unit at Cornell or from an external partner organization. Applications are due on **August 31, 2024**.

GS-9/11 Natural Resource Manager (Interdisciplinary Biologist/Physical Scientist)

This position is located in Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, in the Resource Management Division. This is a Career-Seasonal position, seasonal appointments are permanent positions and include the same benefits as Career appointments, but do not provide work on a year-round basis. You will work from approximately January through June. Will be in non-pay status for one pay period between June and July, work July through December. Application closes on **June 21, 2024**. [Click here for details](#).

GDPE Social Listserv - Please make sure to sign up [here](#) for the GDPE Social Listserv to keep up with all the fun events we have planned this year!

GDPE Student Teams Channel - Join our Teams Channel [here](#) for all GDPE-related questions, ideas, and discussions with fellow students.

Submit Photos

We want your photos! What are you up to, how is your field and lab work? Share them with us here.



GRADUATE DEGREE
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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



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