

**Organization of
Biological Field Stations**

**Newsletter
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May 2002**



OBFS NEWS

The Newsletter of the Organization of Biological Field Stations #, Volume 2002, No. 1.
Issued May 2002, Editor: David S. White, Hancock Biological Station

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(Term of office, E-mail address)

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<i>Editor</i>	David White (2001-2003 - david.white@murraystate.edu)
<i>Network Coordinator</i>	Mark Stromberg (2001-2003 - stromber@socrates.berkeley.edu)

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OBFS Home Page Address
<http://www.OBFS.org/>

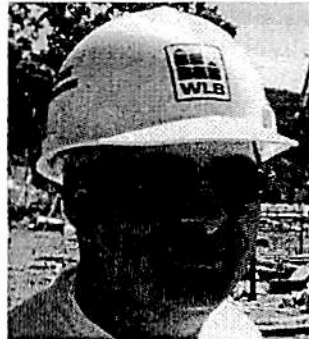
OBFS News (ISSN 1533-2195) is an official publication of the Organization of Biological Field Stations. David White edits it with assistance from Gerry Harris at the Hancock Biological Station on Kentucky Lake. OBFS News is published twice per year, usually in December and May. The deadlines for articles submissions are November 1 and April 1, respectively. All articles for inclusion may be mailed to the Hancock Biological Station, 561 Emma Drive, Murray, KY 42071 (USA) or may be sent via E-mail to david.white@murraystate.edu, Phone 270-474-2272, Fax 270-474-0120. Additional or missing copies of OBFS News and copies of some back issues may be obtained from the editor. Copies also may be found at <http://www.OBFS.org>.

RESULTS FROM DECEMBER 2001 ELECTIONS

The election results are in with a very good return of 59 ballots cast and a wide distribution of votes across all candidates. The following people were elected to OBFS offices: President – **Eric Nagy**; Vice President – **Philippe Cohen**; Secretary-Treasurer – **Claudia Luke**; Member at Large – **Steve Tonsor**. OBFS thanks **Mike Klug**, **Brian Kloeppe**, **Larry Weider**, **Beth Cline**, **Nina Consolatti** and **Arnold van der Valk** who also stood for offices and were willing to give of their time and effort. Continuing members of the Executive Board are Member at Large, **Sedra Shapiro**; Editor, **David White**; Network Coordinator, **Mark Stromberg**; and Past President, **Hilary Swain**.



Eric Nagy



Philippe Cohen



Claudia Luke



Steve Tonsor

OBFS extends a special thank you to **Peter Connors** who served for many years as Secretary-Treasurer, by all rights the most difficult and time-consuming office within the Organization.

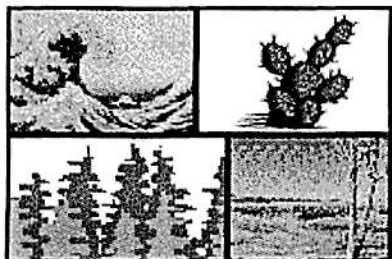


Please note the following changes in contact information for OBFS

Dr. Claudia Luke
Organization of Biological Field Stations
Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve
2648 North Stagecoach Lane
Fallbrook, CA 92028 USA
obfs@sciences.sdsu.edu

Phone (760) 728-9306
FAX (760) 451-0769

FIRST II



Faculty **I**nstitutes **R**eforming **S**cience **T**eaching

The Faculty Institutes for Reforming Science Teaching Project - FIRST II

The National Science Foundation has recently provided four additional years of funds to expand the FIRST project. FIRST II will continue professional development activities for undergraduate faculty, and undertake a larger-scale, national dissemination of instructional practices, materials, and support systems for undergraduate faculty interested in improving their teaching.

The FIRST II project workshops will be held at FSMLs throughout the US and involve eight faculty teams, three of whom participated in FIRST I: Archbold Biological Station, FL, Hancock Biological Station, Murray State University, KY, and the San Diego State University field stations, CA. Five other faculty teams are new and are associated with Kellogg Biological Station, Michigan State University, the Baltimore Long Term Ecological Research site, the University of Akron field sites, Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, and the University of Washington. The FIRST II web site is housed at the LTER office: <http://www.first2.org/>

For further information about the FIRST II project contact Jan Hodder
jhodder@oimb.uoregon.edu or Diane Ebert-May
ebertmay@pilot.msu.edu

ANNUAL MEETING:

ORGANIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS

Michigan State University's W.K. KELLOGG BIOLOGICAL STATION (KBS)

Kellogg Biological Station, 3700 E. Gull Lake Drive, Hickory Corners, MI 49060

Phone: (616) 671-5117 FAX: (616) 671-2351

<http://www.kbs.msu.edu>

The 2002 OBFS Annual Meeting will be held at the W. K. Kellogg Biological Station (KBS)

from Thursday, 19 September 2002 through Sunday, 22 September 2002. KBS was

founded in 1952 and is located in southwestern Michigan within a mixed rural/urban landscape. KBS is located on the shores of Gull Lake, one of the largest inland lakes in Michigan, and is within 18 miles of Kalamazoo or Battle Creek and 62 miles from East Lansing, Michigan. The Station is the largest off-campus education/research unit of Michigan State University and occupies nearly 5,000 acres of land. Additional meeting details and updates will be made available on the KBS website at <http://www.kbs.msu.edu/OBFS>.

FIELD TRIPS

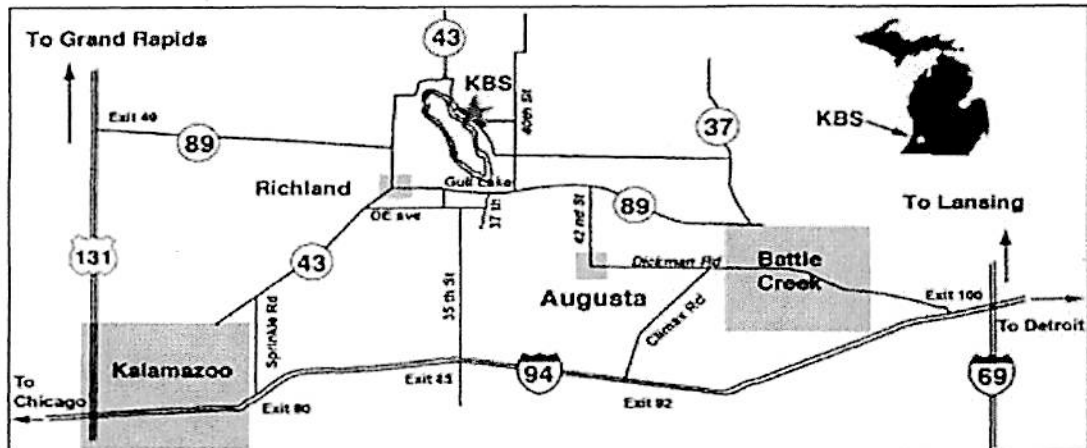
Three pre-meeting field trips are planned for Thursday, September 19, 2002. Participants for the trip to Warren Woods and Warren Dunes State Parks, Southwest Michigan lakes, wetlands and bogs, or KBS Station Tour should plan to arrive on Wednesday evening, September 18, 2002, as an early start on Thursday will be needed to allow for returning to KBS prior to the evening reception. A box lunch will be provided for the field trips. It is suggested that participants should wear comfortable, sturdy clothing and shoes, and bring raingear, sunscreen, hat, water bottle, insect repellent, camera and binoculars.

Warren Woods and Warren Dunes State Parks are located in southwestern Michigan approximately 90 miles from KBS. Warren Woods is a climax beech-maple forest, the last of its type known in Michigan. The magnificent sand dunes in the Warren Dunes State

Park were formed thousands of years ago by receding glaciers scraping continental bedrock. Some of the dunes tower 240 feet above Lake Michigan. Ample opportunities for hiking and viewing along the dunes/forest successional gradient will be available on this trip. There will also be stops at two prairie remnant sites during the return trip to KBS.

FIELD TRIP TO LOCAL LAKES AND WETLANDS

KBS lies on a landscape that was sculpted by glaciers that left till plains and upland and moraines a short distance to the north and outwash plains in the vicinity of the main site. Depressions or "kettle holes" are abundant throughout the area and often contain lakes or wetlands. The field trip to the local lakes, streams and wetlands surrounding KBS will emphasize current and past research activities. Wintergreen and Lawrence Lakes are amongst the best-studied lakes in North America. Streams, especially Augusta Creek, have been intensively studied and were influential in the development of the River Continuum Concept. Wetlands and bogs are exceedingly diverse and current studies seek to understand the ecological variability associated with these systems. At the various stops will be an excellent opportunity for hiking, photos, and viewing of local biota.



KBS STATION TOUR

A tour of local research sites and units at KBS will provide an opportunity to become acquainted with research and education programs conducted on the nearly 5,000 acres of the Station and surrounding environments. Stops will include the Kellogg Farm and Dairy, Kellogg Bird Sanctuary and Forest, Long-Term Ecological Research Site, Experimental and Lakeside Pond Laboratories and the Lux Arbor Reserve. The trip will include an introduction to the research and education programs at each of the sites, as well as opportunities to observe local flora and fauna. This will be a half-day trip.

Additional short visits to individual units or sites are planned during the course of the regular meeting, including activities at the Kellogg Biological Laboratories.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 2002 OBFS Annual Meeting will officially begin on Thursday, 19 September, at 16:30 with a reception, dinner, welcome session and the traditional slide show of new stations and facilities. Any new OBFS member station, or old member with new facilities is welcome to bring a MAXIMUM of 10 slides for the slide show. Business meetings will begin early on Friday, September 20. Along with the usual business meetings and committee reports, there will be two special "mini workshops" held. The first will be devoted to education programs at field stations. This will be a follow-up on a workshop at NSF entitled "Education and Recruitment into the Biological Sciences: Potential Role of Field Stations and Marine Laboratories". The second will deal with networking within the OBFS.

(A complete agenda will be posted on our web site <http://www.kbs.msu.edu/OBFS>).

Social events for the meeting will include a "Taste of Michigan" dinner that will include sampling of local fermentation products and food. The roaring '20's will be revived, including an Italian feast and a visit from the Capone family (former residents of the area) on Saturday evening. You are encouraged to dress in the fashion of the day. We will of course feature the OBFS AUCTION after dinner. Elliot Ness and company will officiate the proceedings at the auction.

The meeting will conclude after lunch on Sunday, 22 September.

Lodging is available prior to and after the meeting dates, however, we do not serve meals. You can e-mail or call if you are interested in obtaining family lodging rates.

ACCOMMODATIONS

KBS can accommodate groups such as OBFS of up to 110 people in our apartments and dormitories (double occupancy basis). Additional lodging is available in our two bunkhouses. Both the "ladies" and "gentlemen's" bunkhouses each sleep 18.

Our site includes a cafeteria that comfortably serves 100 people at a time. Meals are served buffet style. Weather permitting, an outside deck and patio are available for use during meals.

General meetings will be held in the Academic Building at the KBS Education Center Site Auditorium. Internet connections, audio/visual equipment [LCD projector, overheads, slide projectors, TV, VCR, pull-down screen, etc.] are available. Several smaller rooms are available to accommodate small group meetings. The computer lab will be open and computers available to check

mail or prepare presentations. Most of the research and teaching facilities associated with KBS [e.g., LTER, Sanctuary, Pond Lab, Dairy, Succession Trail) are within walking distance of the Education Center Site.

Visitors should bring own toiletries. KBS will provide bedding and bath linens. Weather in Southwest Michigan is variable, usually in the 60's during the day and 50's at night. Average rainfall in mid-September is 2.5" and fall colors will just be starting. Swimming in Gull Lake is an option, however might be a bit nippy. A jacket or sweater will be good for chilly evenings. Comfortable clothing, walking shoes/hiking boots, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, water bottle, binoculars, rain jacket/poncho, camera, and flashlight are suggested.

Don't forget items to donate for the OBFS Reserve Fund Auction. Members are encouraged to contribute unusual items of interest for scientific, cultural, regional, historical or personal reasons. Please limit

field station advertising items to at most a single tee shirt, cap, poster, etc.

The Station is located 18 miles from the Kalamazoo, 75 miles from South Bend, and 50 miles from Grand Rapids airports. A limited shuttle will be available from the Kalamazoo Airport to KBS; however you will have to rent a vehicle if you are coming into the South Bend or Grand Rapids Airport. Other options are Chicago (drive time 3.5 hours from KBS) and Detroit (2.5. hours from KBS). Our web site has driving directions and other general information.

A complete meeting agenda and update on field trips and other activities will be posted on our website at <http://www.kbs.msu.edu/OBFS>.

Address questions to Klug@kbs.msu.edu or (616) 671-2341 or Gillespie@kbs.msu.edu or (616)671-2354 or Consolatti@kbs.msu.edu or (616)671-2228.

OBFS DISPLAY & BROCHURES DATA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP REPORTS

In 1996 funding from NSF allowed OBFS to create a brochure and build a portable, free-standing display booth with text and graphics to explain the importance of biological field stations and marine laboratories to the public. The display is available for OBFS members to borrow for use at professional meetings, open houses, field days, fundraisers, etc. It is about 7'9" tall, 2 feet deep and 8 feet long

with its own internal lighting. Shipping costs may be reimbursable by OBFS. The text of the display is also available in brochure form. Anyone interested in obtaining brochures or borrowing the display should contact Nina Consolatti, Kellogg Biological Station, 3700 East Gull Lake Drive, Hickory Corners, MI 49060. Phone: 616/671-2228; E-mail: Consolatti@kbs.msu.edu.

Also available for the asking from Nina Consolatti are hard copies of the NSF-sponsored workshop reports on data management at field stations: Data Management at Biological Field Stations. Report of a Workshop May 17-20, 1982. W. K. Kellogg Biological Station, Michigan State University (the "green" book), and Data Management at Biological Field Stations and Coastal Marine Laboratories. January 1992, Report of an Invitational Workshop, April 22-26, 1990, W. K. Kellogg Biological Station, Michigan State University (the "blue" book). Note that the 1992 report contains the 1982 report as an appendix, and that both are available electronically (courtesy of John Porter) at www.LTERnet.edu/ecoinformatics.

**Organization of Biological Field Stations
Annual Meeting
19 – 22 September 2002
Michigan State University's W. K. Kellogg Biological Station
Registration Form – page 1 of 2**

Please mail a copy of this form, with registration fee, for each member attending to: Alice Gillespie, Kellogg Biological Station, 3700 E. Gull Lake Drive, Hickory Corners, MI 49060 by **23 August 2002**. For information/questions, please contact: Alice Gillespie, Phone: 616/671-2354, FAX 616/671-2351, e-mail: gillespie@kbs.msu.edu, or Nina Consolatti, Phone: 616/671-2228, e-mail: Consolatti@kbs.msu.edu. **Make checks payable to OBFS**. A \$20.00 fee will be charged for registrations received or cancelled after 23 August 2002. Cancellations after 13 September 2002 will be 50% of registration fee. No refund of registration after 18 September 2002. This form is available for completion and printing online at <http://www.kbs.msu.edu/OBFS>.

PLEASE PRINT

Personal Information: *(if completing on-line, please tab between fields)*

Name: _____ Social Security #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Telephone: _____ FAX: _____ E-mail _____

Male: _____ Female _____

Name tag information, please list as you would like to appear:

Name: _____

Station: _____

Title: _____

Travel/Length of stay plans:

I/(we) will be flying to:

Kalamazoo/Battle Creek Airport (AZO) _____ Other _____

Airport arrival date: _____ Airport departure date: _____

Limited shuttle service will be provided to and from the Kalamazoo Airport and KBS. If you will be renting a vehicle at the airport and would be willing to give a lift to another person, check here, _____. If "checked", your name, e-mail address and arrival information will be posted on the KBS OBFS Meeting web page so that others can contact you to coordinate sharing a ride. Your name will also be added to the mailing list established for ride sharing at: <http://www.kbs.msu.edu/OBFS>.

Other travel plans _____

ACCOMMODATIONS ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY ARE AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING ALICE GILLESPIE at 616/671-2354 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. NO PETS ALLOWED

2002 OBFS Annual Meeting Registration Form – page 2 of 2

Last Name: _____

OBFS Meeting and the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station meal/lodging registration: The annual meeting begins with the Reception and Dinner on Thursday 19 September 2002. The pre-meeting field trips begin on Wednesday 18 September. The actual field trips are on September 19, but participants may need to arrive September 18. The meeting ends after lunch on Sunday 22 September. In addition to the pre-meeting field trips, extended stays are possible if prior arrangements are made. Facility food services will not be available prior to Wednesday, 18 September or after Sunday, 22 September. OBFS members have lodging priority. All beds will be assigned and held on a first come, first choice basis.

Dining Preferences:

Vegetarian _____ Special Dietary requirements _____

Lodging Preferences: (Bed & bath linens are provided)

Housing at KBS consists of two-room apartments with a capacity of 4-6, dormitories with a capacity of 2 per room and two large bunkhouses, which have a capacity of 18 each. Apartments will be filled on a first come first choice basis, with the bunkhouse utilized for late registrants. Fees do not vary with accommodation. Rank your KBS housing preference (1=highest)

Apartment _____ Dormitory _____ Bunkhouse _____

Preferred roommate(s) registering separately: _____

Indicate any information that you feel would enable us to better provide for your housing needs: _____

Registration Fees:

OBFS Annual Meeting, meals and lodging: \$285 \$ _____

Late Fee (after 23 August 2002) Add: \$ 20 \$ _____

Pre-meeting Field Trips (includes meals and lodging) \$ 75 \$ _____

Please check one: Warren Dunes _____

Lakes and Wetlands. _____ KBS _____

Total Amount Enclosed from all items checked: \$ _____

Signature: _____

Payment must be enclosed in the form of a check payable to "OBFS". Credit cards cannot be accepted.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Paid _____

Amount Paid _____

Check # _____

Room Assignment _____

Field trip _____

Notes _____

STATION NEWS – NEW MEMBERS

Hopkins Memorial Forest

Williams College, Williamstown, MA

The Hopkins Forest consists of 2500 acres of Northern and transitional hardwoods on the Eastern slopes of the Taconic Mountain Range in the tri-state area of Northwestern MA, Eastern NY and Southwestern, VT. The Forest has been associated with Williams College since the mid-thirties when it was deeded to the college as an array of abandoned fields, pastures and woodlots. The US Forest Service managed the site as an experimental station from that time until the late 60s--leaving a legacy of permanent monitoring plots, stream gauging stations and genetic plantations. Since 1971 Hopkins Forest has been operated directly by the College for research and scholarly activities. In addition to the now unbroken stands of hardwoods, this field station consists of a main building that includes two labs, a classroom, office, exhibit space and networked computer facilities. There are four weather stations on the area ranging to the top of the mountain. Two stream gauging stations going back to the Forest Service era have been reactivated and in operation since the early 80s.

A major emphasis at the Hopkins Forest has been land-use history and the impacts of past agrarian activities on subsequent pathways of succession. The original Forest Service permanent plots and historic land use maps have been vital to these studies. Geomorphology and the transport of

sediment through the local watershed have also been explored at the Forest. In the early 90s, HMF became the home of one of the earliest canopy observation facilities in the temperate region. During this period experiments and observations on the community structures of the forest canopy were conducted; the canopy walkway continues to serve as an educational resource. More recently, studies of invasive species, including garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), have been launched in Hopkins Forest.

As it serves an undergraduate institution, a primary mission of the forest is to provide unique outdoor classroom and research experiences for undergraduates. To this end, several lab sections are routinely taught at the site and many independent studies and honors thesis projects are and have been conducted at the forest. In addition, the Hopkins Forest has had historically strong ties to the local community: community festivals, maple sugaring, deer hunting and nature programs are all a part of the annual routine at HMF.

For more information on Hopkins Forest, or to inquire about research opportunities there, please contact Manager Drew Jones (ajones@williams) or visit our website: www.williams.edu/CES/hmf.

Drew Jones

Jaguar Creek

Jaguar Creek is located in central Belize in the scenic karst topography of the Maya Mountains about 12 miles from Belmopan, the capital city. Its 200 acres of mixed primary and secondary growth hardwoods include a disappearing stream that flows above ground for about 300 yards before dropping below the ground into a cave, and a sinkhole that is connected to the same water system.

Deep in a lush jungle paradise, Jaguar Creek facilities resemble a jungle lodge, although it is not operated as a resort or hotel. One of the goals that started Jaguar Creek was to create a model of sustainable development and that led to a facility that is powered by solar panels, has composting toilets, and was designed and constructed to leave as little trace as possible of our presence. Accommodations at Jaguar Creek include ten cabins - each with electricity, indoor toilet and hot water - that can sleep up to six people each.

Objectives of the Jaguar Creek field station include facilitation of rainforest research by providing housing, assistance and access to prime rainforest habitat; acting as a model facility in order to encourage sustainable development in rainforest regions; and encouraging the

religious communities of Belize and North America to take seriously a commitment to conservation. Also, supporting the establishment and success of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor project in Belize and assisting the Belize Audubon Society in managing Blue Hole National Park and adjacent properties remain a priority as well.

Jaguar Creek is adjacent to the 574 acres of Blue Hole National Park, which is administered by the Belize Audubon Society. Jaguar Creek has a good working relationship with Belize Audubon, and would like to develop joint research projects on the combined acreage. Jaguar Creek is also presently completing a survey of 3800+ adjacent acres of Eden Conservancy property, which will link Jaguar Creek/Blue Hole with the Sibun Forest Reserve and become a component of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor project. Thus, the property available for research from a Jaguar Creek base is vast - but not as vast as the number of organisms that make the Belizean rainforest their home.

Karen McReynolds
Co-Director of Jaguar Creek



Mata de Plátano Field Station and Nature Reserve

Inter American University of Puerto Rico
Bayamón Campus

The field station is located on the north-central karst country in Puerto Rico (the easternmost of the Greater Antilles, latitude 18°25' N, longitude 66°43' W), one hour driving time from San Juan through good roads. The 130 acres reserve lies within the much larger subtropical moist forest life zone, north of Río Abajo State Forest and east of the Río Camuy Caves Park.

The reserve consists of undisturbed areas interspersed among different successional stages of moist forest. The flora and fauna of Puerto Rico contain elements of Greater and Lesser Antillean origin, with over 500 native species of trees, 13 species of bats, 209 species of birds, 41 species of reptiles, and 22 species of amphibians. Snakes, wasps, tarantulas, centipedes, scorpions and poisonous plants are present but not deadly. Histoplasmosis may also be present in caves.



The most notable aspect of Mata de Plátano's fauna is its bat-boa interaction. Located within the reserve is Culebrones cave, where a large number of boas (*Epicrates inornatus*) congregate to feed on bats as they exit. The bat fauna in the cave comprise six species

with a combined population size of approximately 300,000 individuals.

The Station

The field station consists of a newly remodeled building with laboratory space, kitchen, bathrooms and dormitories with bunk beds. Food is provided and prepared by researchers themselves. Other arrangements are made for groups of students. A washing machine and dryer are available. A modest station charge includes room, limited access to laboratory facilities, and the cost of utilities.

Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States and baggage on flights arriving from the mainland U.S. is not subject to examination by Customs, but plant and animal material leaving the island is scrutinized by the U.S.D.A. Malaria and yellow fever are absent from Puerto Rico.

Mata de Plátano Field Station and Nature Reserve is administered by Inter American University (IAUPR) under agreement with the environmental organization Ciudadanos del Karso (CDK). Appropriate collecting permits should be obtained from the Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources and Environment and from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the case of federally protected endangered species. Evidence of all appropriate permits must be presented before the onset of any project.

For reservations and information: Inter American University, Mata de Plátano Field Station and Nature Reserve, Bayamón, Puerto Rico 00957
or contact Dr. Armando Rodríguez-Durán,
(787) 279-1912 Ext. 2067
arodriguez@bc.inter.edu
<http://bc.inter.edu>

Trinity College Field Station At Church Farm

Northeastern Connecticut is a remarkable area, renowned for its rural character and historical importance. The National Park Service has consequently designated the region as the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers National Heritage Corridor. In 2001 The Nature Conservancy declared a portion of this region as one of Connecticut's "Last Great Places," since it contains some of the largest unfragmented natural areas in southern New England. Situated within this landscape, the Trinity College Field Station (TCFS) at Church Farm, was recently established with the donation of that historic farm by Joe and Dorothy Church Zaring in December 1999.

The Church Farm is located in the towns of Ashford and Mansfield. Twenty-eight miles to the east of Trinity's setting in Hartford, TCFS is a 45-minute drive from the College and comprises 256 acres. Trinity holds 152 acres directly, representing the donation, plus the College's acquisition of two adjacent tracts (together 40 acres). The remaining 104 acres are held by the Joshua's Trust, a land trust that earlier received several Church Farm parcels. Trinity and the Joshua's Trust have forged a partnership around protecting and studying the diverse terrestrial (mixed-deciduous forest, shrubland, hayfield) and aquatic (ponds, vernal pools, primary order streams, river) habitats at the field station.

TCFS's three-fold mission is to promote the area's use for 1) research in the natural sciences, especially those related to the environment; 2) a wide range of educational endeavors with an environmental emphasis; and 3) conservation of open space. With a National Science Foundation Field Station and Marine Lab planning grant awarded in 2001, Trinity is now developing a strategic plan to fulfill this mission. This plan will guide

the design and construction of a scientific facility, which is currently lacking on the site.

TCFS has several distinctive features. The first two relate to its southern New England setting. Within a 10-mile radius of TCFS in northeastern Connecticut, there are numerous tracts of preserved land and sizable parcels (> 5 acres) of active farmland. Collectively these areas amount to slightly over 50,000 acres. TCFS is thus effectively positioned as a hub from which to study the ecology of this rural remnant within the Boston-Washington corridor. Furthermore, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island are home to one of the highest concentrations of colleges and universities in the nation, with 140 such schools. Yet within this region there are just three field stations, including TCFS, affiliated with OBFS. TCFS can thus benefit institutions beyond Trinity. On a site occupied by Europeans since 1715, TCFS is among few field stations with such a long recorded land-use history and can thus contribute to our understanding of how previous human activities have influenced today's environment. Through Trinity's sponsorship of the Learning Corridor — a new complex of K-12 schools serving Trinity's inner-city neighborhood — and through its consortial affiliation with other Hartford-area colleges and universities, TCFS has excellent opportunities to engage minority students in research and education.

In its first two years, TCFS has hosted ten research projects involving Trinity faculty and students. These initial studies have focused on biodiversity (algal, avian, and insect) surveys, algal physiological ecology, avian dietary ecology, insect chemical ecology, land use history, and soil magnetic properties. The first papers stemming from TCFS research have been recently accepted for publication.

TCFS is proving an important resource for the science curriculum at Trinity and beyond. To date, TCFS has served as the site for field labs for sixteen courses — fourteen from Trinity, two from the Learning Corridor. The Trinity courses have ranged from interdisciplinary first-year seminars to capstone courses in the biology major. The field station will also host labs for the College's new environmental science major.

We are very excited about the potential that TCFS offers and encourage people from other field stations to visit. Contact information and further background material are available at the TCFS web site: <http://www.trincoll.edu/prog/churchfarm/fieldstation/>

Scott Smedley
Scott.Smedley@mail.trincoll.edu



Catamount Biological Field Station

Catamount Biological Field Station is an independent research organization situated at 9500' in the upper montane forests of Colorado's Front Range. Our 177-acre site offers an exceptional setting for field studies in a region of noteworthy biological diversity, surrounded by 200,000 acres of protected land.

Why another biological field station in Colorado? Two reasons.

One: We're on the cutting edge..... the edge of two great biomes in North America. Just 20 miles away, the expansive Central Short-grass Prairie runs up against the imposing Southern Rocky Mountain eco-region. And in those 20 miles, compressed between the

plains and the fourteen-thousand-foot summit of Pike's Peak, are four distinct life zones. Field biologists know that transitions between major biomes and life zones are interesting places. It is here that plant and animal species push their physiological limits, stretching their ranges to the edge of their tolerances. It is here that species interactions with both the living and non-living components of their environment are most easily understood. And it is here that the effects of long-term, regional-scale ecological perturbations, such as climate change, are often seen first.

This puts us in a strategic research position. It also gives us a remarkable diversity of biotic communities with which to work. At

Catamount, ponderosa and limber pine stands grow on south-facing slopes and spruce-fir forests dominate the northerly exposures. Montane meadows, aspen groves, and willow thickets punctuate the landscape. Two ponds provide aquatic habitat. And above us, subalpine forests rise to timberline, giving way finally to the alpine tundra.

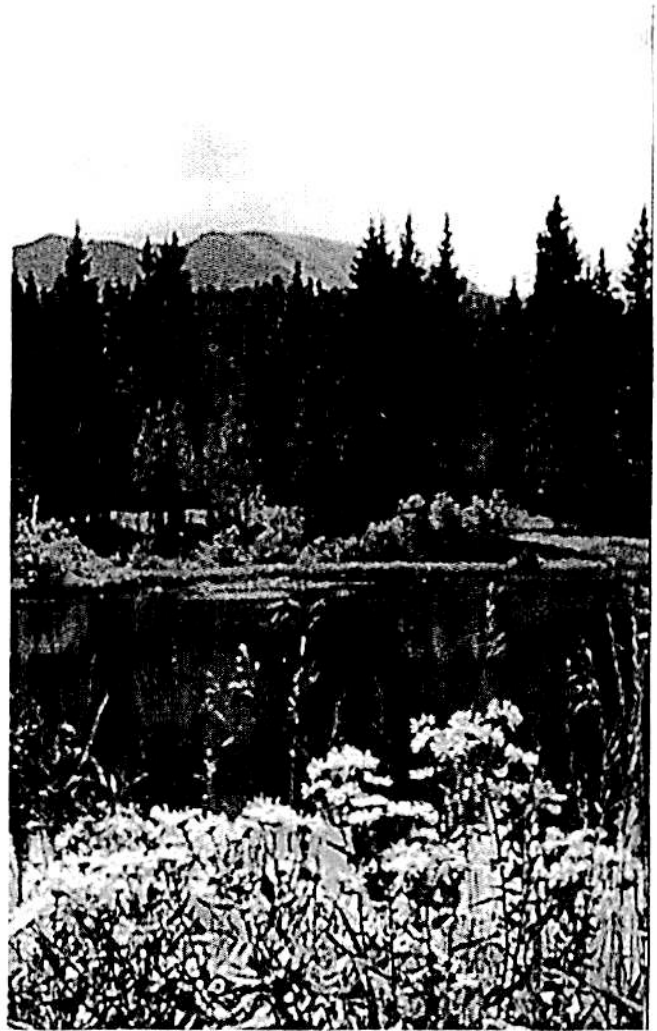
This diversity of habitat is reflected in many of our animal communities as well, particularly in our breeding bird populations. And if you should happen to like lepidopterans, we're situated at the center of butterfly biodiversity in North America.

Two: We have a valuable legacy in our land-use history.

Forty years ago, several small forest plots on Catamount property and surrounding areas were selectively logged, creating a landscape mosaic of different forest cover types and stand densities. This provides us now with a natural experiment for evaluating long-term ecosystem response to thinning treatments - a particularly relevant concern at a time when fire mitigation by mechanical thinning promises to become one of our government's highest management priorities throughout the west.

The development of intelligent forest management strategies for the next century requires considerable ecological foresight, and our best vision as to what lies ahead may come from looking back. Accordingly, much of our current research effort at Catamount is aimed at understanding changes in critical ecosystem properties after thinning, with emphasis on organic carbon and nitrogen cycling, microbial and plant/animal community interactions, tree growth and reproduction, and patterns of colonization by insects and parasites.

This research can make a difference. Analyzing ecosystem response to perturbations in the past puts us in an excellent position to inform forest management policy in the future.



The Catamount Biological Field Station invites all inquires from principal investigators and students whose research program might benefit from our unique biogeographic position. For additional information visit our web site www.catamount.coloradocollege.edu e-mail: peter.marchand@catamountinstitute.org

Peter Marchand

STATION NEWS – NEW JOURNAL

ANNOUNCING THE PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN NATURALIST, A SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL FOR THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

The Board of Editors of the Southeastern Naturalist is pleased to announce the publication of the first issue of its new regionally-focused scientific journal! The journal serves as the southeastern regional counterpart for the Northeastern, Northwestern, and Southwestern Naturalists. These journals, together with the American Midland Naturalist, provide broad coverage of scientific research efforts throughout the United States.

The Southeastern Naturalist is a broad-based effort involving many people from many organizations. It is co-sponsored by the Association of Southeastern Biologists and the Humboldt Field Research Institute (an OBFS member organization). The Southeastern Naturalist welcomes submissions of manuscripts on terrestrial, freshwater, and marine organisms, and their habitats. Subject areas include, but are not limited to field ecology, biology, behavior, biogeography, taxonomy, evolution, anatomy, physiology, geology, and related fields. Manuscripts on genetics, molecular biology, archaeology, and anthropology, etc., are welcome if they provide natural history insights that are of strategic interest to field scientists.

Starting with volume 1(1), the Southeastern Naturalist will be indexed Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, EBSCOhost, Environmental Knowledgebase (formerly Environmental Periodicals Bibliography), FISHLIT (Fish and Fisheries Worldwide;

Aquatic Biology Aquaculture, and Fisheries Resources), Wildlife Review Abstracts, and Zoological Record (BIOSIS UK). Arrangements for indexing in Biological Abstracts (BIOSIS), Elsevier BIOBASE (Current Awareness in Biological Sciences), and other services are pending publication of the first issue.

The Southeastern Naturalist is printed by Allen Press, printer of many journals in the biological and environmental sciences, especially those whose parent organization is a society that is a member of AIBS.

Starting with volume 1(1), the Southeastern Naturalist will be available online in full-text version in the BioOne database (www.bioone.org, a collaborative effort of Allen Press, the American Institute of Biological Sciences, and other organizations) and the Proquest Information and Learning databases (www.il.proquest.com).

All OBFS member stations are encouraged to support their regional journals with a subscription! The broader the subscription base of our country's regional journals, the more articles the journals can publish! This makes the journals more interesting to their readers and more useful as standard research and publishing resources. This is something that is of interest to the scientific community in the entire country as a whole!

Information about the Southeastern Naturalist is available from the Humboldt Field Research Institute, PO Box 9, Steuben, ME 04680. Phone: 207-546-2821. humboldt@loa.com.

SOME USEFUL THINGS

There are a number of useful things posted on the OBFS website at

<http://www.OBFS.org/>

A NEW HORIZON FOR BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS AND MARINE LABORATORIES: Lohr, S. A., P. G. Connors, J. A. Stanford, and J. S. Clegg. 1995. Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, Miscellaneous Publication No. 3. 36 pp. Available in paper copy from Rocky Mtn. Biol. Lab., P. O. Box 519, Crested Butte, CO, USA, (970) 349-7231.

NETWORKING THE ORGANIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS (OBFS): Stanford, J. and A. McKee. 1999.: An Action Plan for Environmental Research and Monitoring. Results of a Workshop, May 17-22, 1998 at The National Center for Ecosystem Analysis and Synthesis Santa Barbara, California. Available on line as a PDF file.

OBFS OPERATIONS MANUAL PROJECT: This is a work always in progress that contains very useful hints and guidelines for beginning a new biological field station, getting an established station up and running, or just seeing how other facilities tackle problems . Operation models are presented from a number of successful field stations. The manual is available on line as a series of PDF files.

NETWORKING AT OBFS FIELD STATIONS: Links to the LTER Network office, NRS Information Technology site, Knowledge Network for Biocomplexity, and Ecological Informatics.

OBFS MAILING LIST

The following pages contain the OBFS Stations and Individual Members lists as of April 2002. The list is formatted for Avery 5161 labels. If you or your station does not appear on the list, please contact Claudia Luke (see page 2)



ACM Wilderness Field Station
Sarah Brezinski
Associatd Colleges of the Midwest
205 W Wacker Drive Suite 1300
Chicago IL 60606

Adirondack Ecological Center
Dr William Porter
Huntington Wildlife Forest
6312 State Route 28N
Newcomb NY 12852

Anheuser Busch Coastal Research Center
Bruce P Hayden
U of Virginia Dept of Envir Sciences
PO Box 400123 291 McCormick Rd
Charlottesville VA 22904

Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch
Bill Branan
National Audubon Society
PO Box 44
Elgin AZ 85611

Archbold Biological Station
Dr Hilary Swain
PO Box 2057
Lake Placid FL 33862

Archbold Tropical Research & Education Ctr
Dr Merle Shepard
Clemson University
2865 Savannah Highway
Charleston SC 29414

Arnot Teaching and Research Forest
Dr Peter J Smallidge
Dept of Natural Resources
Cornell University
Ithaca NY 14853

Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies
Dr David C Mahan
7526 Sunset Trail NE
Mancelona MI 49659

Bahamas Environmental Research Center (BERC)
Dr Luther Brown
George Mason University
Center for Field Studies 214 JC MSN 5D3
Fairfax VA 22030

Bamfield Marine Station
Dr Andy N Spencer
General Delivery
Bamfield BC VOR 1B0 CANADA

Bard College Field Station
William Maple
Annandale NY 12504

Bath Field Station
Dr Randall J Mitchell Stephen C Weeks
University of Akron
Dept of Biology
Akron OH 44325

Belle Baruch Institute for Marine Biology
Dr Madilyn Fletcher
Univ of South Carolina
Columbia SC 29208

Bermuda Biological Station for Research Inc
Dr Anthony Knap
Ferry Reach 1-15
BERMUDA

Bernard Biological Field Station
Stephen Dreher
Dept of Bio Harvey Mudd College
PO Box 1513
Claremont CA 91711

Black Rock Forest
Dr William Schuster
129 Continental Rd
Cornwall NY 12518

Blackwater Ecologic Preserve
Lytton John Musselman
Old Dominion University
110 Mills Godwin Bldg, Dept of Biology
Norfolk VA 23529

Blakely Island Field Station
Dr Bruce D Congdon
TB Crowley Laboratory
Seattle Pacific University
Seattle WA 98119

Blandy Experimental Farm
Dr Michael A Bowers
Univ of Virginia
400 Blandy Farm Lane
Boyce VA 22620

Blogett Forest Research Station
Bob Heald
Center for Forestry
University of California
Berkeley CA 94720

Bodega Marine Laboratory and Reserve
Dr Peter G Connors
University of California
PO Box 247
Bodega Bay CA 94923

Boyd Deep Canyon Desert Research Center
Dr Allan Muth
PO Box 1738
Palm Desert CA 92261

Brooker Creek Preserve
Dr Cathy Flegel
Pinellas County Environmental Mgmt
1001 Lora Lane
Tarpon Springs FL 34689

Canadian Organization for Tropical Education
Fran Mason
Box 335
Pickering, Ontario L1V 2R6 CANADA

Catamount Institute
Howard Drossman
1575 Sutherland Creek Rd
Manitou Springs CO 80829

Cedar Point Biological Station
Richard D Alward
University of Nebraska
348 Manter Hall Biology
Lincoln NE 68588

Churchill Northern Studies Centre
Michael Goodyear
Box 610
Churchill Manitoba R0B 0E0 CANADA

CMU Biological Station
Dr James C Gillingham
Central Michigan University
Dept of Biology
Mt Pleasant MI 48859

Conard (Henry S) Environmental Research Area
Jonathan Brown
Grinnell College
Dept of Biology
Grinnell IA 50112

Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory
Brian D Kloeppe
Institute of Ecology University of Georgia
3160 Coweeta Lab Rd
Otto NC 28763

Bowdoin Scientific Station
Dr Nathaniel T Wheelwright
Biology Bowdoin College
6500 College Station
Brunswick ME 04011

Brackenridge Field Laboratory
Dr Lawrence Gilbert
University of Texas
Integrative Biology
Austin TX 78712

Bull Shoals Field Station
Dr John E Havel
Southwest Missouri State University
Biology Dept
Springfield MO 65804

Cascade Head Experimental Forest
Sarah E Greene
Forestry Sciences Laboratory
3200 Jefferson Way
Corvallis OR 97331

Cedar Mountain Science Center
Harold Ornes
Southern Utah University SB 310A
351 West Center Street
Cedar City UT 84720

Chapala Ecology Station
Laura Davalos Lind
Baylor Univ Biology
PO Box 97388
Waco TX 76798

Cloquet Forestry Center
Robert A Stine
University of Minnesota
175 University Road
Cloquet MN 55720

Cochrane Ecological Institute
Clio Smeeton
PO Box 484
Cochrane Alberta T0L 0W0 CANADA

Cornell Biological Field Station
Edward L Mills
900 Shackelton Point Road
Bridgeport NY 13030

Cranberry Lake Biological Station
Stephen Teale
SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
Syracuse NY 13210

Darrin Fresh Water Institute
Dr Sandra Nierzwicki Bauer
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
MRC 306
Troy NY 12180

Delta Marsh Field Station
Dr Gordon Goldsborough
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg Manitoba R3T 2N2 CANADA

Desert Research Institute
Dr Harold Klieforth
2215 Raggio Pkwy
Reno NV 89512

Desert Station
Dr Robert L Smith
Univ of Arizona
Forbes Bldg Rm 410
Tucson AZ 85721

Desert Studies Center
Dr William Presch
California St Univ Biology
PO Box 6850
Fullerton CA 92834

Disney Wilderness Preserve
Monica Folk
The Nature Conservancy
2700 Scrub Jay Trail
Kissimmee FL 34759

E J Meeman Biological Station
Dr Jack Grubaugh
The University of Memphis
Dept of Biology
Memphis TN 38152

E N Huyck Preserve & Biological Research Station
Dr Richard L Wyman
PO Box 189
Rensselaerville NY 12147

Eagle Lake Biological Field Station
Raymond J Bogiatto Director
California State Univ Chico
Dept of Biological Sciences
Chico CA 95929

Ecology Research Center
Ryan Stander
Miami University
Dept of Zoology
Oxford OH 45056

El Verde Field Station
Dr Alonso Ramirez
PO Box 1690
Luquillo 00773 PUERTO RICO

ES George Reserve
Dr Ronald A Nussbaum
University of Michigan
Museum of Zoology
Ann Arbor MI 48109

Flathead Lake Biological Station
Dr Jack A Stanford
The University of Montana
311 Bio Station Ln
Polson MT 59860

Forfar Field Station
Dr Walter B Bohl
International Field Studies
709 College Ave
Columbus OH 43209

FT Stone Laboratory
Dr Jeffrey M Reutter
1541 Research Center Ohio State University
1314 Kinnear Rd
Columbus OH 43212

Gerace Research Center
Vincent J Vorgeli
BFS c/o Twin Air
1100 Lee Wagener Blvd Suite 113
Ft. Lauderdale FL 33315

Green Wing Environmental Laboratory
Dr Bohdan Dziadyk
Augustana College
639 38th Street
Rock Island IL 61201

H J Andrews Experimental Forest
Arthur McKee
PO Box 300
Blue River OR 97413

Hancock Biological Station
Dr David S White
Murray State University
561 Emma Drive
Murray KY 42071

Hastings Natural History Reservation
Dr Mark R Stromberg
38601 E Carmel Valley Rd
Carmel Valley CA 93924

Hatfield Marine Science Center
Dr Lavern J Weber
Oregon State University
2030 S Marine Science Dr
Newport OR 97365

Hawk Mountain Sanctuary
Dr Keith Bildstein
1700 Hawk Mountain Rd
Kempton PA 19529

Highlands Biological Station
Dr Robert Wyatt
PO Box 580
Highlands NC 28741

Hopkins Marine Station
Stanford University
Pacific Grove CA 93950

Hopkins Memorial Forest
Andrew Jones
Williams College
PO Box 632
Williamstown MA 01267

Howard T Green Field Station
Dr. Susan E Lewis
Carroll College
100 North East Avenue
Waukesha WI 53186

Hubbard Brook Research Foundation
Geoff Wilson
Pleasant View Farm
6 Sargent Place
Campton NH 03223

Humboldt Field Research Institute
Joerg Henner Lotze
(formerly Eagle Hill Field Research Station)
PO Box 9 Dyer Bay Rd.
Steuben ME 04680

Huntsman Marine Science Centre
1 Lower Campus Road
St Andrews NB E0G 2X0 CANADA

Illinois Natural History Survey Bio Stations
Dr Stephen P Havera
Forbes Biological Station
PO Box 590
Havana IL 62644

Illinois River Biological Station
Mark Pegg
704 North Schrader Ave
Havana IL 62644

Indio Mountains Research Station
Dr Jerry D Johnson
The University of Texas
Biological Sciences
El Paso TX 79968

Institute for Tropical Ecology and Conservation
Peter N Lahanas
1023 SW 2nd Ave
Gainesville FL 32601

Institute for Tropical Marine Ecology ITME
Dr Sascha C Steiner
Dominica West Indies c/o ITME
Worcester NY 12197

Institute of Ecosystem Studies
Dr Alan R Berkowitz
Box R
Millbrook NY 12545

Intercultural Center for Study of Oceans & Deserts
Richard E Boyer
PO Box 249
Lukeville AZ 85341

Iowa Lakeside Laboratory
Arnold van der Valk
Iowa State University
131 Bessey Hall
Ames IA 50011

Iracambi Rainforest Research Centre
Robin Le Breton
Fazenda Iracambi
Rosairo da Limeira
36878-000 MG BRAZIL

J H Barrow Field Station
Dr Samuel D Marshall
Hiram College
Biology Department
Hiram OH 44234

Jaguar Creek
Karen E McReynolds
PO Box 446
Belmopan BELIZE

James San Jacinto Mountains Reserve
Dr Michael Hamilton
Univ of California
PO Box 1775
Idyllwild CA 92549

Kananaskis Field Stations
DR E A Johnson
University of Calgary
2500 University Dr NW
Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4 CANADA

Katherine Ordway Preserve
Mel Sunquist Stephen Coates
Dept of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
PO Box 110430
Gainesville FL 32611

Kibbe Life Sciences Field Station
Dr Sean E Jenkins
Western Illinois University
Dept of Biological Sciences
Macomb IL 61455

Kioloa Coastal Campus - Edith & Joy London Fndtion
Eugene Wallensky
Australian National University
Canberra ACT 0200 AUSTRALIA

La Selva Biological Station
Dr Gary Hartshorn Dr Robert Matlock
Organization for Tropical Studies
PO Box 90630
Durham NC 27708

Lacawac Sanctuary
Janice Poppich
RR#1 Box 518
Lake Ariel PA 18436

Lake Itasca Forestry and Biological Station
Dr David D Biesboer
University of Minnesota
1445 Gortner Ave
St Paul MN 55108

Landels Hill Big Creek Reserve
Dr John Smiley
University of California
Big Sur CA 93920

Lilley Cornett Woods
Dr William H Martin
Div Natural Areas
Eastern Kentucky Univ
Richmond KY 40475

Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve
Dr Philippe S Cohen
Stanford University
Stanford CA 94305

Kansas Ecological Reserves
W Dean Kettle Edward A Martinko
Kansas Biological Survey
2041 Constant Avenue
Lawrence KS 66047

Kemp Natural Resources Station
Thomas W Steele
8031 Kemp Woods Road
Woodruff WI 54568

Kino Bay Center for Cultural & Ecological Studies
Dr Ed Boyer Lorayne Meltzer
Prescott College
220 Grove Ave
Prescott AZ 86301

Konza Prairie Biological Station
Kansas State University
Division of Biology Ackert Hall
Manhattan KS 66506

La Suerte Biological Field Station (Costa Rica)
Alvaro Molina
PO Box 55-7519
Miami FL 33159

Lake Erie Center
Stephen Goldman
6200 Bayshore Rd
Oregon OH 43618

Lake Louise Field Station
D Bechler
Valdosta State University
1500 N Patterson Street
Valdosta GA 31698

Lay Field Station
St Louis University Biology Dept
3507 Laclede Avenue
St Louis MO 63103

Long Marine Laboratory
Stephen L Davenport
University of California
100 Shaffer Rd
Santa Cruz CA 95060

Louis Calder Center Biological Station
Dr John D Wehr
Fordham University
PO Box K
Armonk NY 10504

Malheur Field Station
Duncan Evered Lyla Messick
HC 72
Box 260
Princeton OR 97721

Marine Science Institute
Dr Wayne S Gardner
University of Texas at Austin
750 Channelview Drive
Port Aransas TX 78373

Mohonk Preserve Inc
Paul C Huth
Daniel Smiley Research Center
1000 Mountain Rest Rd Mohonk Lake
New Paltz NY 12561

Mountain Lake Biological Station
Dr Eric S Nagy
University of Virginia
PO Box 400327
Charlottesville VA 22904

MSUM Regional Science Center
George R Davis
Minnesota State U Moorhead
Box 317 1104 7th Avenue S
Moorhead MN 56563

National Science Foundation
Dr Gerald B Selzer
BIO/DBI
4201 Wilson Blvd
Arlington VA 22230

Nevada Desert Research Center
Lynn Fenstermaker
Desert Research Institute
755 E Flamingo Road
Las Vegas NV 89119

Northwest Watershed Research Center
Charles W Slaughter
USDA ARS800 Park Blvd
Suite 105
Boise ID 83712

Oak Lake Field Station
Dr Nels Troelstrup
South Dakota State University
Box 2207B
Brookings SD 57007

LUMCON Marine Center
Michael J Dagg Jessica Kastler
8124 Highway 56
Chauvin LA 70344

Marine Science Center
Dr Sandra E Shumway
Long Island University
Southampton Campus
Southampton NY 11968

Mata de Platano Field Station
Dr Armando Rodriguez-Duran
Inter American University-Bayamon Campus
Rd 830 No 500
Bayamon PR 00957 PUERTO RICO

Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory
Dr Patricia Hand
PO Box 35
Salisbury Cove ME 04672

Mountain Research Station
Dr William Bowman
University of Colorado
CB 450
Boulder CO 80309

Nantucket Field Station
Dr Wesley Tiffney Jr
University of Massachusetts
180 Polpis Rd
Nantucket MA 02554

Natural Reserve System
Alexander N Glazer
University of California
1111 Franklin St 6th Floor
Oakland CA 94607

Northern Arizona University Centennial Forest
Michael R Wagner
School of Forestry
PO Box 15018
Flagstaff AZ 86018

Notre Dame Environmental Research Center
Gary E Belovsky
Univ of Notre Dame Dept of Bio Sciences
PO Box 369
Notre Dame IN 46556

Oregon Institute of Marine Biology
Dr Jan Hodder
University of Oregon
PO Box 5389
Charleston OR 97420

Ouachita Mountains Biological Station
Laurence M Hardy Museum of Life Sciences LSU in Shreveport
One University Place
Shreveport LA 71115

Pan American Coastal Studies Laboratory
Don Hockaday
The University of Texas
100 Marine Lab Drive
South Padre Island TX 78697

Pinelands Field Research Station
Dr John Dighton
Rutgers University
PO Box 206 501 Four Mile Rd
New Lisbon NJ 08064

Purdue Univ N Central Biology Field Station
Dr Joseph W Camp Jr
Purdue University North Central
1401 South US 421
Westville IN 46391

Quetzal Education Research Center
Dr Leo Finkenbinder
Southern Nazarene University
6729 NW 39th Expwy
Bethany OK 73008

Reelfoot Lake Research and Teaching Center
W. A. Sliger
University of Tennessee Martin
Dept of Biological Sciences
Martin TN 38238

Rice Creek Field Station
Dr Andrew P Nelson
SUNY Oswego
Oswego NY 13126

Riverwoods Field Laboratory
Dr Carlos de la Rosa
100 Riverwoods Circle
Lorida FL 33857

Robinson Forest
Dwayne A Turner
University of Kentucky Forestry Dept
125 Robinson Road
Jackson KY 41339

San Diego State Univ Field Stations
Sedra Shapiro
San Diego Univ College of Science
5500 Campanile Dr
San Diego CA 92182

Palomarin Field Station
Mary K Chase
Point Reyes Bird Observatory
4990 Shoreline Hwy
Stinson Beach CA 94970

Pescadero Conservation Alliance
John N Wade
PO Box 873
Pescadero CA 94060

Powdermill Biological Station
Dr Joseph Merritt
HC 64 Box 453
Rector PA 15677

Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology
Dr Gail Johnston
University of Pittsburgh
13142 Hartstown Road
Linesville PA 16424

Raystown Field Station
Chuck Yohn
Juniata College
Huntingdon PA 16652

Reis Biological Station
Dr Nevin Aspinwall
St Louis University Biology Dept
3507 Laclede Avenue
St Louis MO 63103

Richard B Gump South Pacific Bio Research Station
George Roderick
University of California
Environmental Science Policy & Mgmt
Berkeley CA 94720

Robert R Smith Environmental Field Station
Dr Stanley K Sessions
Hartwick College
Biology Dept
Oneonta NY 13820

Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory
Dr Ian Billick
PO Box 519
Crested Butte CO 81224

Santa Cruz Island Reserve
Dr Lyndal Laughrin
Marine Science Institute
University of California
Santa Barbara CA 93106

Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve
Dr Claudia Luke
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Dr
San Diego CA 92182

Seahorse Key Marine Laboratory
Dr Harvey B Lillywhite
University of Florida
PO Box 118525
Gainesville FL 32611

Selman Living Laboratory
William Caire
University of Central Oklahoma
Biology Dept 100 N University Drive
Edmond OK 73034

Shannon Point Marine Center
Dr Stephen D Sulkin
Western Washington University
1900 Shannon Point Rd
Anacortes WA 98221

Shortgrass Steppe LTER Site
Sallie G Sprague
Colorado State University
Dept of Forest Sciences
Fort Collins CO 80523

Sierra Nevada Field Campus
Jim Steele
San Francisco State University
323 Thornton Hall 1600 Holloway
San Francisco CA 94132

Sonoran Arthropod Studies Institute
Steven J Prchal
PO Box 5624
Tucson AZ 85703

Spruce Knob Mountain Center
Alton C Byers
PO Box 907 411 Main Street
Franklin WV 26807

St Croix Watershed Research Station
Daniel R Engstrom
Science Museum of Minnesota
16910 152nd Street N
Marine on St Croix MN 55047

Stroud Water Research Center
Bernard Sweeney
970 Spencer Road
Avondale PA 19311

Savannah River Env Sciences Field Station
Dr Ambrose O Anoruo
South Carolina State University
300 Orange Street PO Box 7411
Orangeburg SC 29117

Sedgwick Reserve
Michael Williams
PO Box 848
Santa Ynez CA 93460

Sevilleta Field Station
Dr Robert Parmenter
University of New Mexico
Dept of Biology
Albuquerque NM 87131

Shoals Marine Laboratory
Cornell University
G 14 Stimson Hall
Ithaca NY 14853

Sierra Ancha Station
Rachel Keithley
Dept of Biology Arizona State Univ
Box 871501
Tempe AZ 85287

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
Howard S Barnes
Unit 0948 APO
AA 34001 0948 USA (REPUBLIC OF PANAMA)

Southwestern Research Station
Dr Wade C Sherbrooke
American Museum of Natural History
PO Box 16553
Portal AZ 85632

St Catherine Island
Royce Hayes
PO Box 528
Midway GA 31320

Starr Ranch Sanctuary
Sandy DeSimone
National Audubon Society
100 Bell Canyon Road
Trabuco Canyon CA 92679

Stunt Ranch Santa Monica Mountains Reserve
Carol Felixson
UCLA Stunt Ranch Reserve
900 Veteran Ave Warren Hall
Los Angeles CA 90024

Sweeney Granite Mountains Desert Research Center
Jim Andre
University of California Riverside
PO Box 101
Kelso CA 92351

Tall Timbers Research Station
Leonard A Brennan
13093 Henry Beadel Drive
Tallahassee FL 32312

Thomas More College
Dr Chris Lorentz Director
Center for Ohio River Research & Education
Biology Department
Crestview Hill KY 41017

Toolik Field Station
Michael A Abeals Brian M Barnes
Institute of Arctic Biology University of Alaska
PO Box 757000
Fairbanks AK 99775

Trinity College Field Station at Church Farm
Scott Smedley
Dept of Biology
Trinity College
Hartford CT 06106

Turtle Cove Environmental Research Station
SLU 10585
Southeastern Louisiana University
Hammond LA 70402

UC Davis Reserves
Shorty Boucher
DESP
University of California
Davis CA 95616

University of Idaho
McCall Field Campus
PO Box 1025
McCall ID 83638

University of Michigan Biological Station
Tom Crandell
725 Dennison Bldg
830 N University
Ann Arbor MI 48109

University of Mississippi Field Station
Dr Marjorie M Holland
Dept of Biology
Shoemaker Hall Room 228
University MS 38677

Taiga Biological Station
Dr W O Pruitt
Dept of Zoology
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg Manitoba R3T 2N2 CANADA

Taylor Ranch Wilderness Field Station
Holly and Jim Akenson
University of Idaho
HC 83
Cascade ID 83611

Tift Nature Preserve
Karen Wallace
1200 Fuhrmann Blvd
Buffalo NY 14203

Treehaven Field Station
Dr Corky McReynolds
2540 Pickerel Creek Ave
Tomahawk WI 54487

Trout Lake Station
Tim Kratz
10810 County Hwy N
Boulder Junction WI 54512

Tyson Research Center
Dr Jonathan Losos
Washington University
PO Box 258
Eureka MO 63025

UCSD Reserves
Isabelle Kay
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
University of California San Diego
La Jolla CA 92093

University of Miami
Dr Samuel H Gruber
9300 SW 99 St
Miami FL 33176

University of Michigan Biological Station
Dr James Teeri
1121 Natural Sciences Bldg
Ann Arbor MI 48109

University of Oklahoma Biological Station
Lawrence J Weider
University of Oklahoma
HC 71 Box 205
Kingston OK 73439

University of Wisconsin Field Station
Jim Reinartz
3095 Blue Goose Road
Saukville WI 53080

Valentine Eastern Sierra Reserve
Daniel R Dawson
Star Rt 1 Box 198
Mammoth Lakes CA 93546

Volcano Bay Field Station
Dr Bruce Carter
Pasadena City College
1570 East Colorado Blvd
Pasadena CA 91106

Wheaton College Science Station
Dr Stephen O Moshier
Wheaton College
Geology & Environmental Science Dept
Wheaton IL 60187

White Mountain Research Station
Mike Morrison
University of California San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla CA 92093

Wind River Canopy Crane Research Facility UW
David Shaw
1262 Hemlock Road
Carson WA 98610

Wyoming National Park Service
Dr Henry J Harlow
University Station
PO Box 3166
Laramie WY 82071

Upper Rio Grande Valley Biological Station
Jack Clinton Eitniear
Center for the Study of Tropical Birds
PO Box 298 211 Trevino Street
San Ygnacio TX 78209

Vermilion Sea Field Station
Lane McDonald
(Bahia de Los Angeles Baja California)
1319 Lake Drive
Encinatas CA 92024

W K Kellogg Biological Station
Dr Mike Klug
Michigan State University
3700 East Gull Lake Drive
Hickory Corners MI 49060

Whitaker's Forest
Bob Heald John Battles
University of California, Berkley
151 Hilgard Hall
Berkley CA 94720

Whittell Forest & Wildlife Area
Dr Steve Vander Wall
University of Nevada
Biology Dept MS314
Reno NV 89557

Woodlake Environmental Field Station
Elizabeth Whippo Cline
Center for Env Sci Tech & Policy
Cleveland State U 1899 E 22nd St MC 219
Cleveland OH 44114

Yellowstone Ecosystem Studies
PO Box 6640
Bozeman MT 59771

Chris Bedel
Edge of Appalachia Preserve
19 Abner Hollow Road
Lynx OH 45650

Ed Brunson
Aravaipa Canyon Preserve
HC 1 Box 2934
Oracle AZ 85623

Robert A Burco
Research Design and Implementation
5050 Foothills Rd Apt E
Lake Oswego OR 97034

Laura S Carter
66 McKenna Rd
Norwich VT 05055

Dr Richard W Coles
Hoene Springs
11 Hickory Lane
Eureka MO 63025

Robert K Colwell
University of Connecticut
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Storrs CT 06269

Nina Consolatti
Kellogg Biological Station
3700 East Gull Lake Drive
Hickory Corners MI 49060

Dr Robert C Dalgleish
10601-F Tierrasanta Blvd #110
San Diego CA 92124

Dr John De Freitas
Carmabi Foundation
PO Box 2090
Curacao NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

William J Ehmman
Drake University Olin Hall
2507 University Ave.
Des Moines IA 50311

Dr Robert L Fisher
3728 Cold Springs Rd
Huntingdon PA 16652

Dr James C Halfpenny
A Naturalist's World
PO Box 989 300 Scott
Gardiner MT 59030

Dr Willard N Harman
SUNY at Oneonta Biological Field Station
5853 State Highway 80
Cooperstown NY 13326

Susan Harrison
University of California
Dept of Environmental Science and Policy
Davis CA 95616

Mary Page Hufty
257 Mapache Drive
Portola Valley CA 94028

Dr Eugene Kaplan
Hofstra University Marine Laboratory
Dept of Biology
Hempstead NY 11550

Judith Kenis
Julian Center for Science & Education
PO Box 1389
Julian CA 92036

Dr George Lauff
WK Kellogg Biological Station
3700 East Gull Lake Dr.
Hickory Corners MI 49060

Martin Lechowicz
Gault Nature Reserve
422 chemin des Moulins
Quebec J3G 4S6 Montreal CANADA

Susan Lohr
Lohr Associates
PO Box 1757
Crested Butte CO 81224

Tom Manley
Middlebury College
Geology Department
Middlebury VT 05753

Dr Graham H Pyke
36 Allworth Dr
Davidson NSW 2085 AUSTRALIA

Dr Jon Ross
Lake Itasca Forestry & Biological Station
HC 05 Box 7
Lake Itasca MN 56470

Dr William C Scharf
760 Kingston Court
Traverse City MI 49684

Owen J Sexton
Tyson Research Center
PO Box 258
Eureka MO 63025

Marget Shea
IW Bernheim Foundation
Hwy 245 General Delivery
Clermont KY 40110

Richard K Spears Jr
PO Box 52963
Shreveport LA 71135

Stephen J Tonsor
University of Pittsburgh
162 Crawford Hall
Pittsburgh PA 15260

Dr Stephen C Weeks
Dept of Biology
University of Akron
Akron OH 44325

Dr Margery L Oldfield
Seatuck Environmental Association
PO Box 31 500 St Marks Lane
Islip NY 11751

Alan P Romsper
605 N Pomona Ave
Fullerton CA 92832

Dr Jerome Rozen Jr
American Museum of Natural History Entomology Dept
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York NY 10024

Dr Mary K Seely
Desert Research Foundation of Namibia
PO Box 20232
Windhoek NAMIBIA

Dr Jennifer M Shay
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg Manitoba R3T 2N2 CANADA

Dr Judith Skog
BIO/DBI, National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Blvd
Arlington VA 22230

Dr Michael C Swift
826 Goodrich Ave.
St. Paul MN 55105

David L Trydahl
White Mountain Research Station
127 Elmcrest Drive
Bishop CA 93514

Dr Pamela L Williams
PO Box 1236 5442 Isabel
Weldon CA 93283