



David Pereksta/BOEM

Flight Recorder: International Study Tracks Pink-Footed Shearwaters from Chile to Canada

Josh Adams is studying the pink-footed shearwater (*Puffinus creatopus*) with partners at Oikonos Ecosystem Knowledge, Chilean Corporación Nacional Forestal (CONAF), Canadian Wildlife Service, Hawaii Pacific University, American Bird Conservancy, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation “The satellite tracking technology allows us to map, within a few kilometers, the locations of the birds,” says Adams. “We are gathering data about where the birds go and about how long they spend in key foraging areas.” Read more in the press release from the American Bird Conservancy: <http://www.abcbirds.org/newsandreports/releases/130430.html>
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/adams>

NEW JOURNAL ARTICLES

Keeley, JE. 2012. **Fire in Mediterranean climate ecosystems—a comparative overview.** *Israel Journal of Ecology & Evolution* 58(2-3): 123-135.
doi: 10.1560/IJEE.58.2-3.123
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=4895>

Ne’eman, G, I Izhaki, **JE Keeley.** 2012. **Fire in the Mediterranean—From genes to ecosystems.** *Israel Journal of Ecology & Evolution* 58(2-3): 103-111.
doi: 10.1560/IJEE.58.2-3.103
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=4894>

Ostoja, SM, EW Schupp, S Durham, **R Klinger.** 2013. **Seed harvesting is influenced by associational effects in mixed seed neighbourhoods, not just by seed density.** *Functional Ecology.* doi: 10.1111/1365-2435.12091
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=4888>

EVENTS

May 15, 2013 (Davis, CA)

Phil van Mantgem is invited to speak at the **UC Davis Forest Biology Lecture Series** on the pattern and processes of tree mortality across the Western U.S.
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/Event.aspx?ID=154>

July 16, 2013 (Menlo Park, CA)

Poster abstract submissions for the biennial **Salt Ponds Science Symposium** are being accepted until May 14, 2013. Please contact **Laura Valoppi** for details.
<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/Event.aspx?ID=156>

IN THE NEWS



CDFW Establishes New Herd of Endangered Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), along with volunteers from around the state, has established a new herd of federally endangered Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis sierrae*). There are now 10 herds of Sierra bighorn between Owens Lake and Mono Lake. Three additional herds are needed to meet recovery goals, and **Rob Klinger** is working with Alex Few of CDFW on GIS models to determine future reintroduction areas, as well as collaborating with the recovery team meetings.
<http://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2013/04/17/cdfw-creates-first-bighorn-sheep-herd-in-25-years/>
<http://youtu.be/5KOMCxxTL6U>

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NEW JOURNAL ARTICLES (CONT'D)

Van Linn III, PF, **KE Nussear**, **TC Esque**, **LA DeFalco**, **RD Inman**, SR Abella. 2013. **Estimating wildfire potential on a Mojave Desert landscape using remote sensing and field sampling.** *International Journal of Wildland Fire*. doi: 10.1071/WF12158 <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=4889>

Webb, RH, **TC Esque**, **KE Nussear**, M Sturm. 2013. **Disruption rates for one vulnerable soil in Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona, USA.** *Journal of Arid Environments* 95: 75-83. doi: 10.1016/j.jaridenv.2013.03.016 <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=4893>

WERC PUBLICATION BRIEFS

Genetic diversity of California red-legged frogs in the receding southern edge of their range

A study by **Jon Richmond**, **Kelly Barr**, **Adam Backlin**, **Amy Vandergast** and **Robert Fisher** in *Evolutionary Applications* analyzes the genetic diversity of California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*) populations at its receding range along southern California. Researchers analyzed the genetic structure and diversity of these frontline populations, and attempted to discern whether genetic diversity patterns of this threatened species were a result of long-term distribution shifts, or a result of population fragmentation due to recent disturbance from the Copper Fire, Topanga Fire, Crown Complex Fire and Station Fire.

<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=4890>

Proposed energy project footprints may overlap with evolutionary hotspots in Mojave Desert

When a geographic region shows spatial overlap in high genetic diversity and divergence for many species, it can be considered an “evolutionary hotspot”. In a study published in the journal *Diversity*, researchers from USGS WERC, Florida Museum of Natural History, Utah Valley University and Humboldt State University identify 10 such hotspots in the Mojave Desert, and assessed whether they overlapped with proposed renewable energy developments.

<http://www.werc.usgs.gov/ProductDetails.aspx?ID=4892>



Jonathan Felis/USGS

Sooty Shearwater Migration on Display in Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (USGS *Sound Waves*)

Spectacular photographs by **Jonathan Felis** are featured in the April 2013 issue of *Sound Waves*, the USGS oceans and coastal science newsletter. The article profiles a collaborative effort between **Josh Adams**, California Sea Grant and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary to promote public awareness of seabird ecology.

<http://soundwaves.usgs.gov/2013/04/outreach.html>