

WRAM Conference 2012 Speakers' Profiles

Thomas W. French, Ph.D.

Dr. French is the Director of Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program within the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. Tom is a very familiar presence at WRAM conferences as he has attended many over the years. He keeps us informed on animal issues that are of interest to rehabilitators, such as white nose syndrome in bats.

Cathie Gregg

Cathie Gregg is the Executive Director and wildlife rehabilitator at Elaine Conners Center for Wildlife in Madison, NH, which has just celebrated its twentieth anniversary. ECCW is entering its ninth season of rehabilitating and releasing white-tailed fawns and moose calves to the New Hampshire wild. Fawns begin to come into the Center as early as mid-May and are released in mid-September. Cathie was presented with the Volunteer Award of Excellence by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department in 2010 for her work with deer fawns and moose calves.

Nicholas Rodenhouse, Ph.D.

Dr. Rodenhouse began studying Black-throated Blue Warblers in the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest in 1982 for his dissertation research. He became interested in the topic of climate change in 1987 when he was a part of the first U.S. EPA sponsored assessment of the potential effects of climate change on the United States. He has been conducting research on climate change since then, participating in recent reviews sponsored by the Union of Concerned Scientists and the US Forest Service. Since 1988, he has been on the faculty of Wellesley College, Wellesley MA, where he teaches ecology, conservation biology and environmental studies.

Research: Ecology of migratory songbirds in a north temperate forest

My research focuses on the effects of climate change on migratory songbirds. To do this, we are intensively monitoring a population of Black-throated Blue Warblers (*Dendroica caerulescens*) and of Ovenbirds (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) that breed across a 600-m elevation gradient within the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest of north central New Hampshire (see <http://www.hubbardbrook.org/research/current/discipline/animals/bird/holmes-intro03.htm>). At high, middle and low elevations, representing different climatic conditions, we are quantify the breeding activities of pairs, which includes netting and banding birds, finding nests, monitoring activity at the nest, and weighing and banding nestlings. Habitat quality is also being

measured, including food abundance, weather, predator abundance, and vegetation composition and structure. Summer research students will develop individual projects associated with one of the various aspects of the overall research program. Results of this research are contributing to basic ecological theory and will have direct management applications for migratory songbirds, some of which are of conservation concern. Colleagues and students at Dartmouth College, the Smithsonian Institution, the University of Vermont, University of Montana, Cornell University are collaborating on various aspects of this study. Our studies are a part of the broader Hubbard Brook Ecosystem Studies (see http://www.hubbardbrook.org/research/current/new_current.htm).

Samuel Young, DVM

Dr. Young graduated from North Carolina State College of Veterinary Medicine in May 2011, where he focused in zoological/exotic animal medicine. The day before graduation he married the love of his life, Jessica, a fellow classmate. Sam plans on pursuing a residency in zoo medicine following completion of this internship. Though his interests are many, Sam has a special love for all things reptile, raptor, rhino, and feline.

Research:

I am working on a case report of the use of bone morphogenic protein for a complicated humerus fracture repair in a peregrine falcon, and working on a study in conjunction with the Vancouver Aquarium trying out a GnRH agonist contraceptive implant in male and female Southern stingrays.