

Tavis D. Forrester

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Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology
Graduate Group in Ecology
University of California, Davis

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EDUCATION

University of California-Davis, Davis CA Expected graduation Dec. 2012
Doctor of Philosophy, Ecology Graduate Group, Integrative Ecology **GPA: 3.95**

Oregon State University, Corvallis OR June 1999
Honors Bachelor of Science, *Magna Cum Laude*, Wildlife Science **GPA: 3.80**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Skills:

- Project Coordination: Field crew supervision and project management
- Chemical Immobilization: Currently training in free range darting methods
- Animal Capture: Deer capture/handling, Chemical and physical capture methods
- Radio Telemetry: Monitoring, Triangulation, Mortality site location, Fitting tags/collars
- Mortality Analysis: Site analysis using track and sign, DNA sample collection
- Vegetation: Line intercept and quadrat survey methods, Species identification in multiple ecosystems
- Animal Behavior: Behavioral observation of ungulates and bears, Individual identification and observation of bears.
- Surveys: Songbird and raptor nest searches, Point counts, Mammal track and sign
- Certified wildlife tracker from Cybertracker Conservation International
- Analysis: Basic ANOVA and Regression techniques. Currently training in logistic regression survival and risk analyses, structural equation modeling, and hierarchical modeling.

Research History:

PhD Student Researcher – 40-60+ hours/week June 2009 -Present
PhD Dissertation Project, University of California, Davis, Field Site: Covelo, CA
Multi-year research project investigating predation and resource interactions in black-tailed deer.

Field Biologist – 40+ hours/week March 2007
Andean Bear Conservation Project, Fundacion Espiritu del Bosque, Ecuador
I volunteered as part of a study to document the habitat use and movement of Andean bears, and to reduce conflicts between bears and farmers.

Biological Technician – 40+ hours/week June 2005 -September 2005
Anan Wildlife Observatory, US Forest Service, Wrangell, AK
I studied the effects of human visitation on bear behavior, including documenting the behavior of up to 20 individually recognizable and named bears.

Biological Technician – 40+ hours/week April 2001-August 2001
Juneau Ranger District, US Forest Service, Juneau, AK
I was part of a two man field crew that studied mountain goats to determine helicopter flight seeing effect on their population, using on the ground observation, laser rangefinders, and helicopter and fixed wing surveys.

Field Biologist – 40+ hours/week March 2001-April 2001
Turnstone Environmental Consulting, Corvallis, OR
Conducted night surveys and daytime nest location surveys for spotted owls.

Goose Check Station Attendant – 20 hours/week November 2001-February 2002
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Corvallis, OR
I identified Canada Goose subspecies and enforced the threatened sub-species bag limit.

Biological Technician – 40+ hours/week July 1999-September 2000
McKenzie Bridge Ranger District, US Forest Service, McKenzie Bridge, OR
Conducted surveys for species of concern (mollusk, red tree vole, and fungus). Planned survey routes and areas, led survey crews in 50-60% of the surveys. Conducted raptor surveys for Spotted Owl, Great Grey Owl, Goshawk, Bald Eagle, and Peregrine Falcon.
Created/modified GIS layers using survey data. Assessed and validated of Roosevelt Elk habitat classifications on proposed timber sale units. Restored wetland breeding habitat for the red-legged frog. Collected lynx lure stations for genetic analysis of hair samples.

Undergraduate Researcher – Varied from 5-15 hours per week Spring 1998, 1999
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
Conducted point counts and transect surveys for a variety of songbird and waterfowl species. Worked on a research team to gather and analyze data and create a project report. Formulated original research questions and analyzed data for honors thesis.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant Positions: All positions 20 hours/week

- Created original lesson plans and activities and taught discussion sections. Graded exams and quizzes. Facilitated peer to peer writing feedback sessions and conducted instructor writing feedback. Graded essays.
- **Outdoor Education:** Created and led experience based activities to teach basic biology and ecology concepts, Used music to teach ecology, Mentored high school students in leadership and teaching

Teaching Assistant Fall 2009
UC Davis, Davis, CA – WFC 154 Conservation Biology

Teaching Assistant Winter 2009
UC Davis, Davis, CA – WFC 050 Natural History of California Vertebrates

Teaching Assistant Fall 2008
UC Davis, Davis, CA – SAS 001 Critical Inquiry into Contemporary Issues

Teaching Assistant Spring 2008
UC Davis, Davis, CA – WFC 010 Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Teaching Assistant Winter 2008
UC Davis, Davis, CA – LDA 030 History of Landscape Architecture
Teaching Assistant Fall 2007
UC Davis, Davis, CA – ESP 172 Public Lands Management

Naturalist/Medic - 40+ hours/week September 2004-June 2005
San Mateo County Outdoor Education, La Honda, CA
Provided emergency medical care, discipline and homesickness counseling to students. Managed student medications, including inventory and administration. Coordinated logistics with parents, program administrator, and doctors to ensure safe participation for special needs students. Taught students biological and ecological concepts in redwood forest, chaparral, and beach settings.

Naturalist - 40+ hours/week January-May 2003, 2004
Pigeon Point Environmental Education Program, Pescadero, CA
Taught biology and ecology in tide pool, dune, chaparral, and redwood settings. Lead outdoor, acting, musical, and cooking activities for 8-15 4th and 5th graders weekly. Taught students marine mammal biology (primarily Pinniped and Cetacean).

Naturalist Intern - 40+ hours/week September 2001-May 2002
San Mateo County Outdoor Education, La Honda, CA
Taught species level and ecological concepts in redwood forest and beach settings. Lead musical and improvisational activities for groups of 14-17 5th and 6th graders. Guided and mentored high school cabin leaders.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Forrester, T., Wittmer, H.** A review of mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) population dynamics: A call for an ecosystem approach. In prep for Journal of Wildlife Management.
- Forrester, T., Casady, D., Gerstenberg, G., Wittmer, H.** Immobilization of free ranging mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) with Telazol®-xylazine: Dosage and safety recommendations. In prep for Journal of Wildlife Management.
- Forrester, T., Cardenas, S., Hardie, E., Ballard, H.** Citizen science: A tool for increasing monitoring capacity and building social capital. In prep for Conservation Biology.
- Deiner, K., **Forrester, T.**, Grof-Tisza, P., Muir, M.J., Santos, M. J., Souza, L., Wilkerson, M. L., Zylberberg, M., Schwartz, M.W. The what, where and how of managing biodiversity. Conservation Letters. Submitted.
- Forrester, T.** 2011. Mendocino Blacktail Deer Project. Poster Presentation. California Deer Association Annual Banquet, Santa Rosa Chapter, Santa Rosa, CA.
- Forrester, T.** 2008. Indigenous Prescribed Fire and Breeding Songbirds: A Possibility for Restoration. Oral Presentation. Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, UC Davis, CA
- Forrester, T.** 1999. Effect of Habitat Structure on Bird Diversity at Big Marsh, Oregon. Undergraduate Honors Thesis. Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.
- Jarvis, R.L., Li J.L., **Forrester T.**, Lipe J. 1998. Assessing Restoration Effects on Bird Communities at Big Marsh, OR. Bureau of Land Management Report.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND HONORS

- 2010 Stockton Sportsmen Club Scholarship (\$500)
- 2009-2010 UC Davis Jastro Shields Research Award (\$1500)
- 2009-2010 Ecology Graduate Group Block Grant Award (~\$9,250)
- 2008-2009 UC Davis Jastro Shields Research Award (\$1800)
- 2008-2009 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention
- 2007-2008 Geography Graduate Group Block Grant (\$3000)
- 1999 Phi Kappa Phi Honor's Society
- 1999 Memorial Mentorship Scholarship (\$3500)
- *Awarded to seniors demonstrating leadership potential in wildlife science*
- 1995-99 Presidential Scholarship
- *Awarded to only 50 outstanding entering freshmen each year, this four year scholarship covers all tuition costs*
- 1995-99 Oregon State University Dean's List
- 1995 Alpha Lambda Delta Honor's Society
- *Honor's Society for Outstanding Freshman*

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- 2009-10 **Founding co-chair**, Ecology Graduate Student Association Sustainability Committee
Transformed 7 day Ecology Grad Student Orientation into a Carbon Neutral Event
Offered sustainability workshops for UC Davis graduate students
- 2009-10 **Outing leader** for Boys to Men mentoring organization, Sacramento chapter
- 2008-09 **Graduate Student Association representative**, Ecology Graduate Group
- 2008 **Student election coordinator**, executive council, Geography Graduate Group
- 2006-07 **Founding Member**, Boys to Men mentoring network, Santa Cruz chapter
- 2005 **Volunteer**, Constructed playground in Hacienda Zuleta, Ecuador
- 2003 **Leader**, Natural History Workshops, San Mateo Outdoor Education
- 2000 **Coordinator**, Snow Tracking Workshop, Oregon Wildlife Society
Coordinated snow tracking workshop with noted trackers Dr. James Halfpenny and Jon Young. The workshop was successful enough that it continued for 8 more years.
- 1996-99 **President**, Oregon State University Judo Club

WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES

Tracking workshops or add these into leadership and service?

RESEARCH IN THE NEWS

- "Understanding the Predator-Prey Relationship". Outdoor California. Sept.-Oct. 2010 p. 9-17.
- "State's deer population appears to be plummeting." San Francisco Chronicle 23 Aug. 2010 A-1.
- "Study focuses on black-tailed deer decline". Sacramento Bee. 4 Aug. 2010.
- "More Feral Hogs Mean Fewer Blacktails?" American Hunter Oct. 2009. p. 23.