

CFEOR Updates

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Conserved Forest Ecosystems: Outreach and Research

<http://sfrc.ufl.edu/cfeor>

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Hello from California– Melissa Kreye!



Melissa Kreye, CFEOR Coordinator

We are happy to introduce Melissa Kreye as the new CFEOR project coordinator just in from the West coast. Melissa recently completed her M.S. degree in the Wastewater Utilization Program at Humboldt State University where she studied the accumulation of metals in steelhead trout reared in reclaimed wastewater. Melissa has a range of field and laboratory experience in several disciplines including fisheries/wildlife, hydrology, and water quality. She is also familiar with field methods in forestry from working several seasons with the US Forest Service at Lassen National Park and as a technician for a private timber company in California.

Melissa will be assisting Nancy Peterson and the other directors at CFEOR in several areas. Currently, she is coordinating the field research on our long term signature project, “Developing Adaptive Management Strategies for Ecosystems in Transition”, at Tate’s Hell State Forest in Franklin County. Melissa will also assist and organize other research and outreach projects as well as updating the CFEOR website and newsletter.

“I am excited about the purpose of this cooperative and I look forward to contributing to the preservation of Florida’s beautiful ecosystems through CFEOR.”



UF SFRC is Launching the State’s first-ever Program in Wildland Fire Science and Management

The UF Wildland Fire Science and Management program will provide a series of internet-based distance education courses that are unique to the Southern US. Courses in this series are designed to meet the Interagency Fire Program Management GS-401 professional series standards.

The courses are designed for non-degree seeking fire professionals, aspiring fire professionals, fire practitioners, and anyone interested in increasing their knowledge of fire ecology, management, and related sciences. As a self-funded program, tuition rates are reduced to \$210 per credit hour, regardless of residency.

Initial Winter & Spring 2009 Courses:

FOR 4905 section 5209 - Prescribed Fire Use and Impacts in the Southern US (3 upper division credits). Students gain experience using prescribed fire and evaluating fire effects in a variety of ecosystems across the southern US. Co-taught by Prescribed Fire Training Center (Tallahassee, FL) and the SFRC. Rolling enrollment (enroll before the PFTC course session begins).

FOR 4110 section 5202- Ecology and Restoration of the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem (3 upper division credits). The history, importance, ecology, and restoration techniques for the southeastern longleaf pine ecosystem.

How to Register: Registration is quick and easy. Just go to the University of Florida Division of Continuing Education website (<http://www.cals.ufl.edu/distance/non-degree.shtml>) and click on the "online non-degree application". Fill out the application using the course and section numbers listed above. You will receive an email with further instructions.

To view course information click on the [courses list](#). Contact mikebann@ufl.edu for more information.

Recent Research Findings

Effects of Urban Sprawl on Hunting Participation in the Southeastern United States

Poudya, Neelam C.; Cho, Seong-Hoon; Hodges, Donald G. 2008. Southern Journal of Applied Forestry, 31 (3) 134-138.

Hunting is an important but declining activity in the Southeastern United States. Although our understanding of what causes this decline is incomplete, the period of decline coincided with rapid urbanization in the region. Urban sprawl, which is changing socio-cultural traditions and leisure patterns, may be a driver in declines in hunting. Therefore, using county-level data for the Southeastern United States, we developed a log-linear demand model of hunting to estimate effects of urban sprawl on hunting. Results suggest that an increase in urban population and dispersal of low-density residential development in the wildland reduced hunting participation in the region. This implies that feasibility and effectiveness of hunting as a wildlife management tool may decrease if the current urbanization trend persists in the region. Results also suggest a need to promote hunting within urban populations and for maintaining hunting opportunities by promoting tighter management of urban sprawl to conserve huntable areas, increasing public hunting land, and possibly increasing public access to private lands.

Upcoming Events

- **Registration for on-line forestry courses is not open.**
For more information <http://www.cals.ufl.edu/distance/non-degree.shtml>
- **Tall Timbers Research and Land Conservancy 24th Fire Ecology Conference**
Jan.11-15, 2009 Ramada Conference Center, Tallahassee, FL
Theme: "Future of Prescribed Fire: Public Awareness, Health, & Safety"
For more information visit: <http://www.talltimbers.org/FEconference/>

- **Third National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration - The Spirit of Cooperation**
July 20 – 24, 2009, The Westin Bonaventure, Los Angeles, CA
<http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/NCER2009/index.html>
- **Society of American Foresters National Convention - “Opportunities in a Forested World”**
Presenter submissions: Oct. 29, 2008 – Feb. 18, 2009
Sept. 30, 2009 - Oct. 4, 2009, Orlando, Florida
<http://www.safnet.org/natcon-09/index.cfm>