

## Welcome!

To be effective, conservation biology must be represented by a well-organized and recognizable body of professionals that is active and involved wherever decisions that affect biodiversity are made. The Society for Conservation Biology is striving to be such a body. Throughout our 16-year history, we have promoted the highest standard of scientific research. We have encouraged communication and collaboration between conservation biology and other disciplines. We have established *Conservation Biology* as one of the most influential ecological journals in the world. But for the most part we have kept to ourselves, pursuing our careers and research and interacting with a restricted sphere of individuals with similar interests. This narrow focus has limited our influence on public policy and our engagement with those on the front line of conserving biodiversity—land managers, the staff of government agencies and conservation groups, environmental educators, and other practitioners.

In response to feedback from our members, SCB is taking major steps toward becoming a true society—better organized, more involved, better educated, and more inclusive. Rapid growth of geographically-based sections of SCB (see page 2) and establishment of the Executive Office (see page 8) illustrates the remarkable promise of our recent membership initiatives. We hope that our efforts to make practitioners full partners in SCB and its mission will be equally effective.

The most rigorous scientific research imaginable will not protect, maintain, and restore life on this planet unless we understand how that knowledge can be translated into action. *Conservation In Practice* (see page 9) was launched in 2001 in response to this constraint. *Conservation In Practice* seeks to meet the needs of practitioners and policy makers who are short on time, but eager to assimilate the most recent and cutting-edge information on scientific and technical topics with relevance to management. The magazine not only disseminates information, but facilitates more productive dialogue between academics and practitioners.

In 2002, we provided subscribers to *Conservation In Practice* with membership in SCB. If you are among this group, greetings! We look forward to working with you and learning from you. Please consider joining one or more of our geographically-based sections (see page 2), a local chapter if one is based nearby, or one of the many active SCB committees. Information on these and other member activities and services is available on SCB's web site, <http://conservationbiology.org>. We invite you to share your perspectives on conservation biology and SCB with other members of the Society and, importantly, with our Executive Office (see page 8). SCB is undergoing an interactive process of strategic planning, and your input is critical to our success. On behalf of SCB, I extend the warmest of welcomes to our new colleagues.

Mac Hunter, President

## An update on SCB's strategic planning

With wiregrass sizzling from a controlled burn just outside the door, the SCB Board of Governors met in February at the Joseph W. Jones Ecological Research Center (aka Ichauway), a 29,000-acre outdoor laboratory in rural southwest Georgia. Twenty-eight people including nearly all of our committee chairs and 16 of 18 board members participated in two very full days of strategic planning for SCB. Among the attendees was the newly elected Marine Section representative on the Board, John Ogden (see page 2).

The 2002 meeting was a continuation of a strategic planning process that began in February 1999, when SCB held its first strategic planning session in Santa Barbara, California. At that first meeting, members of the Board of Governors developed a three-year work plan for SCB and prioritized a set of actions for SCB to take on.

We began the 2002 meeting by reviewing the tasks we established for ourselves in 1999 and assessing whether we successfully accomplished our objectives.

We were quite pleased to realize how much progress we have made.

see **Planning**, page 10

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

International sections	2
2002 SCB awards	4
2003 award nominations	5
2002 meeting update	6
Conservation education	7
2003 symposium proposals	8
Board of Governors elections	11
Announcements	12

## INTERNATIONAL SECTION NEWS

The seven international sections of SCB, all of which are now either established or being formed, facilitate communication among members with similar interests, strengthen the discipline of conservation biology around the world, and bring international perspectives to SCB decisions. Membership in SCB is a prerequisite for membership in a regional section. SCB offers reduced membership dues to residents of the World Bank's list of low and middle income countries. Although SCB members may be a voting member of just one section, they may join and participate in as many sections as they wish. For more information see <http://conservationbiology.org/SCB/Activities/Sections> or recent issues of the newsletter.

Elections for officers are underway in the Europe Section. An update from the Austral and Neotropical America Section will appear in the next issue of the newsletter.

### **Africa Section: Elections and Symposium**

The Africa Section now has more than 130 members and is still growing. Members includes citizens of many African countries as well as individuals from other continents. The interim steering committee has been working hard at recruiting additional members to ensure that we have representation from the entire continent. We are grateful to all who have contributed funds to the Africa Section that have contributed to the success of our membership drive. Further contributions are welcomed. We hope that this section will become an important forum for discussion and development of conservation policy in Africa.

Elections for the governing board of the Africa Section are underway. The new officers will be announced on the SCB website and at the 2002 annual meeting, where we also will be launching the Africa Section. We are still seeking funds to facilitate the participation of African speakers at the meeting. Please contact [paula@wananchi.com](mailto:paula@wananchi.com) if you can help.

We are pleased to announce that Richard Leakey will be presenting the keynote address at the Africa Section symposium at the annual meeting, *Conservation in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities* (see page 7). Richard Leakey has played a vital role in conservation in Africa and is currently involved in an initiative to create a trust fund for protected areas in East Africa. The fund would ensure that parks continue operating even during periods of economic hardship. Leakey is also an advisor to the UNEP Great Ape Survival Project, and he will be raising awareness about that project at a reception in Canterbury. We thank UNEP and the Born Free Foundation for making the event possible.

*Paula Kahumbu, Acting Chair*

### **Australasia Section Update**

The Australasian Section (Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Pacific Islands) now has more than 100 members and will soon be seeking nominations for the Governing Board. It is our intention to ensure that the Governing Board includes

representatives from the various regions of the section including Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands. We aim to elect officers in time to be officially launched as a section at the 2002 annual meeting.

The Australasian Section aims to promote excellent conservation science and practice throughout the region, serve as a regional contact network between conservation biologists and diverse conservation agencies, encourage interdisciplinary approaches to conservation issues in Australasia, advocate the inclusion of science into biodiversity policy, decision-making, and management in Australasia, and contribute to the international activities of SCB. If you are a SCB member located or working in the Australasian Region and wish to become a member of this section please send an email to [OzNZ@conservationbiology.org](mailto:OzNZ@conservationbiology.org). For more information please see the SCB website.

*Meg Montgomery*

*Australasian Steering Committee*

### **Marine Section Update**

Welcome to all the new Marine Section members! We look forward to meeting with you at the 2002 annual meeting.

#### **Elections and Officers**

Following the formation of the Marine Section in December 2001, an election was held in which ten candidates ran for the Governing Board. The results of the election were announced in early January 2002. The five candidates receiving the most votes were John Ogden (Director, Florida Institute of Oceanography), Elliott Norse (President, Marine Conservation Biology Institute), Leah Gerber (Assistant Professor, Arizona State University), Elise Granek (Graduate Student, Oregon State University), and Carolyn Lundquist (Research Scientist, National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research, New Zealand). Your new Marine Section officers would like to thank all of those who stood for election and everyone who voted. There is much work to do and we hope to involve all who are willing in the growth of marine conservation within SCB.

A sixth officer for the Marine Section will be elected for 2003; all officers will have terms of office of 3 years. To maintain the international focus of the Marine Section, the Marine Section officers will include at least one international member. One Marine Section officer also will serve as a representative on SCB's Board of Governors.

We have begun to make plans for the future including the appointment of offices (President, Science Coordinator, Policy Coordinator, Communications Coordinator, International Coordinator, and Treasurer). John Ogden, who received the most votes in the election, will serve as President for 2002. We have begun to draft bylaws, which will be posted on the SCB website upon completion, and we are working with Board of Governors on the many new strategic initiatives of SCB.

## 2002 SCB Annual Meeting

We are planning a meeting of the Marine Section at the 2002 SCB meeting in Canterbury. If you will be attending the SCB 2002 meeting and are interested in assisting with planning of this event, please contact Carolyn Lundquist (c.lundquist@niwa.cri.nz). Details will be posted on the website and listserv as the meeting dates approach.

Our most important tasks for the near term are to solicit marine papers and symposia for the 2003 annual meeting in Minnesota (see page 8). We will work to find an appropriate marine venue for the 2004 meeting and sponsor a number of symposia there. We anticipate that subsequently increased interest in marine conservation will increase the frequency with which major meetings with a focus on marine conservation may be held.

## Membership

Currently the Marine Section consists of 162 SCB members, but almost 500 members expressed an interest in marine conservation. In addition, we hope to actively solicit new SCB members based on the commitment of SCB to marine conservation. We will communicate the results of these developments through the web site and on the Marine Section email list in due course.

## Marine List Server

In order to increase communication between SCB members on marine issues, we have created a marine email list: [marinelist@conbio.org](mailto:marinelist@conbio.org). To join the SCB marine list, send a message to [marinelist-request@conbio.org](mailto:marinelist-request@conbio.org) containing the word SUBSCRIBE as the first and only line in the message body (leave the subject line blank). The system will respond with a message indicating success or failure. If you wish to subscribe under an alias email address, include a Reply-to: header in your email message. The Reply-to address will be subscribed to the list and the response to your subscription command will be sent to that address. To remove your email address from the list, send an email message to [marinelist-request@conbio.org](mailto:marinelist-request@conbio.org) containing the word UNSUBSCRIBE as the first and only line in the message body (leave the subject line blank).

We also will be posting updates on Marine Section activities on the Marine Section portion of the SCB website, <http://conservationbiology.org/SCB/Activities/Sections/marine/>.

For further information on the Marine Section, please contact Carolyn Lundquist, [c.lundquist@niwa.cri.nz](mailto:c.lundquist@niwa.cri.nz).

*Carolyn Lundquist*  
*Communications Officer, Marine Section*

## North America Section Initiated

Nearly 200 members already have joined the North America Section. To become a member of the section, update your contact information on the SCB website, send an email to [NAM@conservationbiology.org](mailto:NAM@conservationbiology.org), or contact the Executive Office. Using quasi-biogeographic criteria, we have defined North America as Canada and the United States. Conservation biologists in Mexico and Latin America may be interested in joining the Austral and Neotropical America Section, the North America Section, or both.

## What will the North America Section do?

Our next steps will be to conduct elections for the section's Governing Board, write bylaws, and prioritize section activities such as organizing regional meetings or symposia for SCB annual meetings, taking the lead on policy issues relevant to Canada and the United States, or producing section publications. We anticipate holding elections in May or June 2002. Please consider nominating yourself or a fellow SCB member for office.

The interim steering committee (Michael Collopy, Robert Curry, Andre Desrochers, Tom Fleischner, Erica Fleishman, Susan Haig, Susan Hannon, Loyal Meyerhoff, Scott Mills, Barry Noon, Mike O'Connell, Sarah Reichard, J. Michael Scott, and Marc-Andre Villard) will continue to lay the groundwork for the section until officers have been elected.

*Susan Haig*  
*Interim Committee Chair*

## TO JOIN A SECTION CONTACT

[africa@conservationbiology.org](mailto:africa@conservationbiology.org)  
Austral and Neotropical America: contact SCB's Executive Office, [membership@conservationbiology.org](mailto:membership@conservationbiology.org)  
[Asia@conservationbiology.org](mailto:Asia@conservationbiology.org)  
[Europe@conservationbiology.org](mailto:Europe@conservationbiology.org)  
[Marine@conservationbiology.org](mailto:Marine@conservationbiology.org)  
[NAM@conservationbiology.org](mailto:NAM@conservationbiology.org)  
[OzNZ@conservationbiology.org](mailto:OzNZ@conservationbiology.org)

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## 2002 Society for Conservation Biology Awards

### • EDWARD T. LAROE III MEMORIAL AWARD •

The Edward T. LaRoe III Memorial Award is given annually to an individual who has been a leader in translating principles of conservation biology into real-world conservation. Preference is given to individuals who have spent at least part of their career in public service.

#### *John Lawton*

John Lawton has conducted pioneering research on theoretical ecology, population dynamics, community ecology, global environmental change, and the use of controlled experimental facilities for ecological research. His work has been published in more than 300 journal articles and book chapters. He was instrumental in establishing The Royal Society for Bird Preservation's strategy for protecting landscapes. His work, and that of others he has championed, has had a major influence on the development of environmental policies in the United Kingdom regarding diverse issues such as sustainable development, global climate change, fisheries management, and agricultural practices. He is recognized worldwide for his scientific accomplishments and ability to interpret the significance of research findings to policy makers and land managers. This award is given to John Lawton for his extraordinary contributions to science, conservation, and policy.

### • DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS •

Every year SCB presents its Distinguished Service Awards for outstanding contributions to conservation biology. Recipients are nominated by the SCB membership through the Awards Committee and are selected by the Board of Governors. These awards will be presented at the 2002 meeting.

#### *Individual in Academia* *Georgina M. Mace*

Georgina Mace has been at the forefront of developing quantitative criteria that assess extinction threat that in turn can be linked a key tool in conservation, the IUCN Red List. Her work is an outstanding model of how to link theory, empirically based research, and practice. Her contribution is already being viewed as a major turning point in changing conservation from ongoing and largely unsubstantiated crises to a reasoned set of facts and figures that scientists can hold up with pride, but alarm. This award is given in recognition of Georgina Mace's extraordinary contribution in establishing a firm scientific basis to assessing extinction risk for threatened species.

#### *Outside Government and Academia* *The Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands*

Since being established under UNESCO's aegis in 1959, the Charles Darwin Foundation has worked ceaselessly to ensure that the Galapagos Islands remain in near pristine condition. CDF's efforts to eradicate invasive species in island ecosystems and reintroduce native species are exemplary for the developing

and developed world. The staff and leadership of CDF have remained committed to the Galapagos in the face of serious threats from violent mobs. This award is given to the Charles Darwin Foundation for their extraordinary service to the Galapagos through research and protection programs, particularly for tackling the threat of invasive species, and for working with the Galapagos National Park Service to promote scientifically based conservation management.

#### *Social, Economic, and Political Work* *Márcio Ayres*

Márcio Ayres was the driving force behind the creation of the Mamirauá-Amanã reserves in Brazil, which are part of the largest protected block (20,000 square miles) of rainforest on earth. Through a broad vision of sustainable development before this became a mantra for the world community, Ayres and his team conceived the Mamirauá Reserve as managed by the local community and containing a mix of fully protected lakes and land and a highly productive fishery. He has encouraged, trained, and supervised a cadre of Brazilian students, authored numerous technical papers, and contributed to the understanding of the role of rivers in speciation of Amazonian primates. This award is given to Márcio Ayres for his extraordinary contributions in linking biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in practice.

#### *Education and Journalism* *David Attenborough*

British naturalist and film maker David Attenborough has done more to awaken the conscience of the television viewing public to the wonders and beauty of natural history, and the measures necessary for its conservation, than any person alive today. Furthermore, he continually surprises professional scientists with his insights into aspects of the behavior, ecology, and evolution of species that they have often spent years studying, through the footage with which his film crews return, and the way that he subsequently shapes both his television series and the beautifully written books that result from any series. This award is given in recognition of David Attenborough's extraordinary contribution in bringing the wonders and beauty of natural history, including both its robustness and fragility, into the homes of many.

#### *Government* *Phoebe Barnard*

As Coordinator of the Namibian National Biodiversity Programme, Phoebe Barnard has major responsibilities for the organization of Namibia's emerging 10-year strategic action plan for sustainable development through biodiversity conservation. Building on her highly regarded research on animal ecology, Barnard has succeeded in obtaining the support of natural and social scientists throughout Namibia, whose combined expertise and energy are making the National Biodiversity Program a truly national effort. At the international level, Barnard has effectively represented both Namibia and the

needs for conservation and sustainable use in the Convention on Biodiversity and other fora. This award is given to Phoebe Barnard for her extraordinary contribution to conservation in Namibia, especially for putting science into practice.

*Posthumous Award  
Anil Agarwal*

Anil Agarwal recognized more than two decades ago that environment was not just a luxury of the rich, western countries, but that it ought to be a basic concern of poor countries like India in order for development to be really meaningful. He successfully championed this idea through his prolific writings in the media, by founding an NGO (the Centre for Science and Environment), by publishing series of State of the Environment Reports, and by founding a monthly environmental journal, *Down To Earth*, in 1992. Through his own work, and through the networks of scientists and activists he has helped inspire and train, Agarwal succeeded in educating India's middle classes and its policy makers about the importance of environmental protection to development. This posthumous award is given to Anil Agarwal for his extraordinary contributions to making mankind's onward advancement consistent with ecological protection.

**Donations to SCB promote the science of conservation biology and protect the diversity of life on Earth**

- Donate appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds. If you donate equities owned more than a year, you can avoid tax on the capital gains and reduce income tax by deducting the fair market value as a charitable contribution.
- Make a bequest to SCB in your will. A bequest may reduce taxes on your estate.

*Please send donations to*  
Stephen Humphrey  
Chief Financial Officer, SCB  
College of Natural Resources and Environment  
Box 116455, 103 Black Hall  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611-6455, USA

**Call for 2003 Award Nominations**

**Edward T. LaRoe III Memorial Award**

The Edward T. LaRoe III Memorial Award is given annually to an individual for outstanding application of science to the conservation of our biological resources. The intention of the award is to recognize the innovative application of science to resource management and policy. Although all scientists will be eligible for the award, because of Edward LaRoe's distinguished career as a public servant, preference will be given to employees of governmental resource management or science agencies.

Past winners of the LaRoe Award are

2001	Robert Pressey
2000	Phil Pister
1999	Chandler Robbins
1998	J. Michael Scott
1997	Barry Noon
1996	Kathy Ralls
1995	Reed Noss

The 2002 LaRoe Award winner is John Lawton.

Please send nominations for the 2003 LaRoe Award to J. Michael Scott, Department of Fish and Wildlife, P.O. Box 44-1141, Room 103, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-1141, mscott@uidaho.edu (with copies to Sarah Martinez, sarahm@uidaho.edu).

Nominations should be in the form of a nominating letter with an accompanying resume of the nominee. Nominations must be received by **1 October 2002**.

**Distinguished Service Awards**

SCB annually presents five awards for distinguished service in the field of conservation biology. For the 2003 awards, SCB is soliciting nominations from its members and others working in the field of conservation biology. The five categories eligible for the award are

- Academia
- Government
- Outside academia and government
- Social, economic, and political work
- Education and journalism

To obtain a nomination package, please contact Seema Paul, Awards Committee Chair, spaul@unfoundation.org. Nominations must be received by **1 October 2002**.

**Committee Members Sought**

SCB's Awards Committee is seeking new members to help solicit award nominations and facilitate interaction between award recipients and SCB members. If you are interested in serving on the committee please contact Seema Paul, spaul@unfoundation.org.

# 2002 ANNUAL MEETING: Overview, plenary speakers, and symposia

Dear Colleagues,

We look forward to welcoming you at what looks set to be a truly memorable meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology. The response to our calls for symposia, papers, and posters has been overwhelming. We hope to be hosting the most internationally diverse meeting of SCB to date. We had received more than 600 abstracts by the submission deadline, with senior authors based in over 60 different countries. We hope that attendees will come from an even larger number of countries. **It is not too late to register for the meeting.** The deadline for author and early registration is **28 April**, but the deadline for final registration is not until **30 June**. Full details of the meeting are available on the meeting website, [www.ukc.ac.uk/anthropology/dice/scb2002/](http://www.ukc.ac.uk/anthropology/dice/scb2002/) or from Andrew Pullin, BES, a.s.pullin@bham.ac.uk or Nigel Leader-Williams, SCB2002 Programme Chair, scb2002@ukc.ac.uk.

The meeting will be held at the University of Kent's campus in Canterbury, England. The official opening will be on 14 July. Scientific sessions will run from 15 through 18 July. The Canterbury Cathedral Choir will sing a concert for us in the Cathedral on 16 July. The banquet and awards ceremony will be on 18 July, and departure day will be 19 July. Field trips will be offered before and after the meeting. See the website or contact the organizers (addresses above) for details.

The meeting will be hosted by the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), and co-hosted by the British Ecological Society. The meeting's theme, *People and Conservation*, reflects two key interests. First, much conservation in Britain and Europe has to be achieved in highly man-modified habitats; this is one of the reasons why the British Ecological Society, with its distinguished history of contribution to conservation biology, is co-hosting the meeting. Second, the mission of DICE is to integrate international conservation and development sustainably by combining natural and social sciences in designing measures to help conserve biological diversity. The plenary lectures, and the dynamic programme of symposia, contributed papers, and posters, are organized to achieve the general aims of

- Exposing conservation biologists from other continents to the rich variety of conservation work being carried out in Britain specifically and Europe more generally
- Exposing conservation biologists from other continents to the major contributions made by British and European conservation biologists to international conservation
- By mirror image, offering British and European conservation biologists in BES a specific forum to celebrate their own work in these areas, and to learn of work undertaken by SCB members in other continents

During the meeting, there will be plenary lectures by four distinguished speakers.

- Sir Crispin Tickell, Chancellor of the University of Kent, will discuss global issues in conservation and development in the context of Rio+10
- Fikret Berkes (University of Manitoba) will speak about conservation with people and evaluating community-based approaches
- Richard Cowling (University of Port Elizabeth) will address planning for multiple biodiversity targets in the Cape Floristic Region
  - John Lawton, Chief Executive of the National Environment Research Council and recipient of SCB's 2002 Edward T. LaRoe III Memorial Award (see page 4), will talk on the consequences of climate change for biodiversity

After consultation with the SCB Board of Governors post-Hawaii, we had already decided to run a four day, rather than a three day, meeting. Given the interest in, and demand for, the meeting as evidenced by offers of symposia and abstracts, this was indeed a fortunate decision! In essence, the change from three to four days will result in fewer parallel sessions. The symposia and spoken sessions will take place in parallel sessions during the day, and there will be two evenings of posters. A total of sixteen symposia were accepted, varying in length from 2 to 5.5 hours. Three of the symposia themes are linked to the plenary lectures, while the remaining 13 are free-standing. Two of the latter symposia were generated directly by the British Ecological Society's Conservation Ecology Group. Symposia titles and organizers are listed below.

*Nigel Leader-Williams  
for the SCB 2002 Organising Committee*

## Symposia linked to plenary lectures

**Integrating people and conservation: interdisciplinary approaches.** Organized by Peter Brosius (University of Georgia, USA), Katrina Brown (University of East Anglia, UK), Tracy Dobson (Michigan State University, USA), David Ellis (University of Kent at Canterbury, UK), and Paige West (Barnard College, Columbia University, USA).

**Conservation planning for the Cape Floristic Region: systematic identification of priority areas in a globally significant ecoregion.** Organized by Richard Cowling (University of Port Elizabeth, South Africa) and Bob Pressey (New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service, Australia).

**Climate change and biodiversity: what are the solutions?** Organized by Jenny Gill and Andrew Watkinson (University of East Anglia, UK).

## Symposia generated by BES, Conservation Ecology Group

**The future of biodiversity in Britain's agricultural landscape.** Organized by Bill Sutherland (University of East Anglia, UK) and Juliet Vickery (British Trust for Ornithology, UK).

**Toward evidence-based conservation practice: a policy framework for co-ordinating science and practice.** Organized by Andrew Pullin (University of Birmingham, UK) and Bill Sutherland (University of East Anglia, UK).

### Free-standing symposia

**Approaches to conserving exploited species in marine and terrestrial ecosystems.** Organized by EJ Milner-Gulland (Imperial College London, UK) and Mohammed Bakarr (Conservation International, Washington, D.C., USA).

**Cultural landscapes and land-use: the conservation-society interface.** Organized by Martin Dieterich (DB&P Ecological Consultants, Germany) and Jan van der Straaten (Tilburg University, The Netherlands).

**Direct payments as an alternative approach to conservation investment.** Organized by Paul Ferraro (Georgia State University, USA) and Agi Kiss (The World Bank, USA).

**Ecological networks: carnivores, cores, and approaches for protecting wildlands.** Organized by Barbara Dugelby (The Wildlands Project, Texas, USA), David Johns (Portland State University and The Wildlands Project, USA), Renato Massa (University of Milano Bicocca, Italy), and Ken Vance-Borland (Oregon State University, USA).

**Gerald Durrell's legacy: managing species in human-modified landscapes.** Organized by Mary Pearl (Wildlife Preservation Trust International, New York, USA), Mark Stanley Price (Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Jersey, UK), and Elaine Williams (Wildlife Preservation Trust Canada, Guelph, Canada).

**Global amphibian declines: is current research meeting conservation needs?** Organized by Richard Griffiths (University of Kent at Canterbury, UK) and Tim Halliday (The Open University, UK).

**Human-carnivore conflict: local solutions with global applications.** Organized by Adrian Treves (Conservation International, Princeton, USA) and Ullas Karanth (Wildlife Conservation Society, Bangalore, India).

**Living with wildlife in Africa: conservation challenges and opportunities.** Organized by Chris Chimimba (University of Pretoria, South Africa), Paula Kahumbu (Kenya Wildlife Service, Nairobi, Kenya), Trinto Mugangu (UNDP-GEF, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo), Nyawira Muthiga (Kenya Wildlife Service, Mombasa, Kenya) and Jeff Worden (ILRI, Nairobi, Kenya).

*NOTE: this symposium was organized by the Africa Section of SCB (see page 2).*

**Mitigating unsustainable hunting and the bushmeat trade in tropical forest countries: using science to change practices.** Organized by Elizabeth Bennett (Wildlife Conservation Society, Sarawak, Malaysia), Heather Eves (Bushmeat Crisis Task Force, Maryland, USA), and David Wilkie (Wildlife Conservation Society, New York, USA).

**Protected areas, conservation, and people within a rural society: case studies from Myanmar.** Organized by U Ga (Myanmar Wildlife Division, Myanmar), Alan Rabinowitz (Wildlife Conservation Society, New York, USA), and Chris Wemmer and William McShea (Smithsonian Institution, Virginia, USA).

**Sustained use and conservation of wild plants: building on traditional knowledge at the local people and protected area interface.** Organized by Nan Vance (PNW Research Station, Corvallis, USA) and Tony Cunningham (WWF UK, Godalming, UK).

## Education committee news

The SCB Education Committee would like to update and supplement information in two areas on the SCB Conservation Education Resources web site.

**Continuing education in conservation biology** ([http://conbio.net/scb/Services/Education/docs/Continuing\\_Ed.cfm](http://conbio.net/scb/Services/Education/docs/Continuing_Ed.cfm)). If you are associated with or are aware of web-based resources in continuing conservation education, please let us know. We are interested in continuing education resources of all kinds, particularly ongoing courses designed to teach principles and applications of conservation biology to targeted audiences of natural resource professionals, educators, or any other segment of the public that influences the design or implementation of conservation

practices. Please send us a one- to two-sentence description of the web-based resource (see those currently listed for examples) and the URL.

**Undergraduate education in conservation biology** (<http://conbio.net/scb/Services/Education/>). The Education Committee continues its efforts to develop a web site to assist undergraduate educators in developing curricula in conservation biology. We are interested in current information on both course content and programs of study in conservation biology. If you teach a course in conservation biology and your syllabus is on the web, please send us its URL. If you teach a course in conservation biology and your syllabus is not on the web but you would not object

to us posting it on our web site, please send us the syllabus as an electronic attachment, preferably in a form that can be read in Word.

Further, if you are associated with an undergraduate program of study in conservation biology (leading to a track, certificate, minor, or major) and the description of your program is available on the web (such as on your institution's web catalog), please send us its URL. If the description of your program is not on the web but you would agree to us posting it on our web site, please send us the description as an electronic attachment, preferably in a form readable in Word.

All information can be sent to Steve Trombulak, [trombulak@middlebury.edu](mailto:trombulak@middlebury.edu).

# 2003 ANNUAL MEETING—Duluth, Minnesota, 29 June – 2 July

## Call for symposia, workshops, and organized discussions

The local organizing committee for SCB's 17th annual meeting, to be held in Duluth, Minnesota, USA from 29 June to 2 July 2003, invites proposals for symposia. There will be opportunities for both 2-hour and 3.5-hour symposia. Presentations will be in multiples of 15 minutes so that the timing of the symposia will be coordinated with the contributed paper sessions. Symposia will either be related to the meeting theme, *Conservation of Land and Water Interactions*, or address newly emerging topics or significant syntheses, including (but certainly not limited to) those suggested below by the local organizing committee. Symposia proposals should differ from those addressed at recent SCB annual meetings.

The meeting's theme will focus attention on water, forests, wetlands, the Great Lakes and other large lakes and rivers of the world, and associated biodiversity issues. We are especially interested in symposium topics that focus on biodiversity issues at the land/water ecotone, at scales ranging from small streams to great lakes and rivers. The meeting will be held at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center ([www.decc.org](http://www.decc.org)), which is located near Lake Superior, the world's largest freshwater lake in terms of surface area.

Proposals should be as brief as possible and include (1) a one-page outline that indicates the title of the symposium, whether 2 or 3.5 hours, goal or purpose, and an explanation of why the topic is appropriate and significant for presentation at the SCB annual meeting, (2) a tentative list of speakers, presentation titles, and whether they have agreed to participate, and (3) complete contact information for the organizers.

Proposals for workshops and organized discussions are also invited. Workshops facilitate the presentation and application of new concepts or methods. Discussions allow audience participation for exploration of new or controversial issues.

Proposals for workshops and discussions should be as brief as possible and include (1) a one-page synopsis composed of the title, goal or purpose, and justification, (2) the organizational structure including format, duration, expected number of participants, and preferred date and time, and (3) complete contact information for the organizers. Dates and times of workshops and organized discussions should be structured to have minimal conflict with paper sessions (evenings, days immediately before or after the meeting, and lunches are preferred). All workshop and discussion organizers must be registered for the meeting.

All proposals must be submitted by **5 July 2002** to [scb2003@d.umn.edu](mailto:scb2003@d.umn.edu). The local organizing committee will complete the selection of symposia, workshops, and organized discussions for inclusion at the 2003 meeting by 15 August 2002. Proposal authors will be notified of the committee's decision as soon as possible so that organizers can acquire any necessary funding for their symposium. The Call for Abstracts will be published in September 2002. For more information contact [scb2003@d.umn.edu](mailto:scb2003@d.umn.edu) or visit [www.d.umn.edu/goto/scb2003/](http://www.d.umn.edu/goto/scb2003/).

The local organizing committee would especially like to see proposals addressing the following preliminary list of topics:

- Great rivers and lakes
  - Identification and issues surrounding marine sanctuaries
  - Issues in ecotoxicology
  - Biogeography of land/water interactions: altitude, latitude, and climate
  - Conservation and restoration of ecological processes and dynamic systems
  - Land/water interactions in agricultural landscapes
  - Ecological thresholds and conservation objectives
  - Issues and challenges in boreal forests
  - Conservation planning for wide-ranging species
  - Public involvement in conservation policy
- Genetically modified organisms

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**Do you have questions about**  
SCB membership?  
SCB publications?  
Sponsored memberships?  
International sections?  
Local chapters?  
Any SCB initiatives or services?

Visit SCB online at  
**<http://conservationbiology.org>**  
or contact SCB's Executive Office  
Society for Conservation Biology  
4245 North Fairfax Drive  
Arlington, VA 22203, USA  
(703) 276-2384  
FAX (703) 995-4633  
[membership@conbio.org](mailto:membership@conbio.org)



Action Proposed in 1999	Key Results
<b>Scientific Research</b>	
Continue publishing <i>Conservation Biology</i>	Constant number of subscriptions, citation index increasing
Continue holding annual meetings	Meeting attendance is growing
Hold workshop to set agenda for conservation biology research	Workshop held at White Oak, Georgia, in April 2000. Resulting book, <i>Conservation Biology: Research Priorities for the Next Decade</i> , published by Island Press.
Develop a magazine aimed at conservation practitioners	<i>Conservation in Practice</i> launched. Circulation is growing.
<b>Internationalization of the Society</b>	
Create international sections	International sections for Africa, Australasia, Austral and Neotropical America, Europe, and the Marine Realm have been created. Efforts are underway to establish sections for Asia and North America.
Add more international content to <i>Conservation Biology</i>	Editor Gary Meffe has continued to recruit more non-U.S. based Assigning Editors. The proportion of papers published by non-U.S. authors is increasing.
Increase international access to <i>Conservation Biology</i>	Subscription cost reduced for individuals from developing countries, but number of new subscriptions still relatively constant.
<b>Education</b>	
Improve academic programs in conservation biology	Education Committee initiatives in progress
Disseminate conservation biology information to media	News tips from <i>Conservation Biology</i> disseminated to media; a few stories have received substantial coverage
Bring scientific perspective to policy debates	In initial stages; more action anticipated as Executive Office capacity increases
<b>SCB Development</b>	
Improve organizational capacity	Executive Office established

After completing this review, we turned to planning for SCB's future. The main steps in our planning process were (1) discussing SCB's resources and constraints, (2) brainstorming a list of actions that SCB might take, (3) deciding which actions should receive highest priority, and (4) outlining plans for implementing each of the priority actions. We identified several major resources / constraints that we needed to consider and created breakout groups to discuss each. Highlights of the discussions on each topic included

**Money.** SCB obviously requires money to pay for programs and for core costs. We decided that it generally would be easier to raise funds for specific programs and initiatives as opposed to core costs. Core costs will be funded by membership dues and other unrestricted funds.

**Staff Time.** SCB cannot rely entirely on the very small staff of the Executive Office to oversee, coordinate, and execute all programs and core activities. Extensive use of technology is making communication and coordination among the membership, Board of Governors, and SCB staff much easier, but considerable time and energy is still needed to support membership services and other core activities.

**Board and Committees.** SCB is made up of individuals representing a diverse set of perspectives and the Board should reflect that diversity. Much discussion at the meeting focused on how to communicate with the constituencies of Board members and how to modify the composition of the Board to better accomplish the mission of SCB. The need for timely communication among committees, the volunteer nature of the Board and committees, and the orientation time for new Board members were all identified as potential constraints faced by the Board and Committees.

**Governance and Sections.** While the international sections and local chapters are resources for SCB, their relationship to the Board and to each other is not yet clearly defined.

**Publications and Meetings.** Our publications and annual meetings are challenged to become more relevant and effective to an increasingly international audience. In addition to content, there are at least two other significant issues: affordability, particularly for individuals in developing countries and developed countries with devalued currency, and access to publications in geographic regions where mail delivery and internet availability are unreliable.

We next turned to a discussion of actions that SCB might take on during the next few years. The following table shows the major actions that the Board considered and the summary rankings that were assigned to those actions (5 = highest, most important, or best opportunity). These rankings are critical to the strategic planning process, which involves deciding not only which actions to undertake but also which actions not to undertake at present. "Importance" refers to the nature of the issue being addressed, "open niche" refers to the degree to which other groups are dealing with this issue, and "possible impact" refers to the potential for SCB to successfully undertake this activity.

Activity	Importance	Open Niche	Possible Impact	Sum	Rank
Continue publishing <i>Conservation Biology</i>	5	5	5	15	1
Continue holding annual SCB meetings	5	4	5	14	2
Further develop <i>Conservation In Practice</i>	5	3	5	13	3
Build capacity of international sections	4	5	4	13	3
Further establish credibility of conservation biology and SCB to diverse stakeholders	3	5	4	12	4
Set conservation biology research agenda	2	3	4	9	5
Link students to the practice of conservation biology	2	3	3	8	6
Enable SCB member action in conservation policy, advocacy, and practice	3	2	3	8	6
Develop conservation biology curriculum guides	2	3	3	8	6
Contribute to conservation policy	3	1	1	5	7

Several actions, such as continuing *Conservation Biology*, the annual meeting, and *Conservation In Practice* clearly were deemed high priorities. Since the Board receives regular reports on these activities, we did not focus on them at this strategic planning session. Instead, we focused on some of the newly proposed activities.

While much of the implementation process has been delegated to committees, with opportunities and challenges recognized and reality as our guide, here are some of the immediate objectives and actions that we identified.

**Enabling SCB Member Action.** We can do a much better job of recruiting and retaining members and tapping into their skills and experience. The new Executive Office, in collaboration with the membership and media committees, is working to meet these challenges. The most significant and unique resource that SCB has is the knowledge and experience of its members. Helping our membership develop networks (particularly between developing and developed countries), attracting press and policy attention for our members' work, and helping the conservation biology community secure funding for its work are some of the ways we outlined to support our membership. Watch for opportunities to become involved with SCB as we develop new resources and projects.

**Linking Students to the Practice of Conservation.** We discussed ways in which SCB might foster improved linkages between conservation practitioners and students. Specific actions that we will be exploring include holding special sessions at the annual meetings and providing support for campus organizations interested in these topics. SCB will be exploring ways of implementing these activities in the coming years.

**Building Capacity of International Sections.** The Board is taking a thorough look at its structure to make sure it represents the diversity of our membership. As our new international sections are established, a key focus of the Society will involve working with these sections to develop and improve the capacity of the sections to reach to the goals and objectives of SCB. We are exploring ways of reaching out to and supporting these sections.

**Establishing the Credibility of Conservation Biology and SCB to Stakeholders.** Look for improved coordination among SCB publications (*Conservation Biology*, *Conservation In Practice*, *NeoCons*, the newsletter, and the website). We anticipate a growing emphasis on viewing conservation from a global perspective and more effective approaches to disseminating our publications.

Overall, the strategic planning meeting was highly successful in outlining and prioritizing SCB actions and in sparking productive activity by the Board, committees, and the membership. We hope that we can continue to make progress as a society, and we invite all members to become further involved in SCB initiatives at every opportunity.

*Alan Thornhill and Nick Salafsky*

## SCB ELECTIONS

The following individuals were elected to the Board of Governors of the Society for Conservation Biology in the 2002 general election. A total of 551 ballots from 25 countries were received. The new Board members will begin their three-year terms of office at the end of the 2002 annual meeting.

**Kathryn Saterson, Secretary**  
**Paul Beier, Local Chapters**  
**Bryan Norton, Humanities**  
**Bruce Thompson, Member at Large**

The 2002 election was the first in which online voting was offered. More than 80% of the ballots were submitted online.

Three positions will be open in the 2003 election

- President Elect
- Category 3 (botanical garden, zoological garden, public aquarium, or natural history museum)
- Category 4 (university or college)

Nominees must be SCB members in good standing. Nominees for President Elect must have served previously on the Board of Governors.

By agreeing to stand for election, nominees indicate their willingness to serve SCB by attending, at their own expense, all Board of Governors meetings during their term of office (two years each for President Elect and President, three years for other officers). Board meetings occur at each annual meeting. They are scheduled at the beginning of the meeting (generally on the day prior to the first day of scientific sessions) and at the end of the meeting (generally on the last afternoon of the scientific sessions), and last for about 10 hours in total. Another Board meeting is held in February or March (location varies). In addition, Board members are expected to be actively engaged in directing SCB through committee work and by working with local chapters.

The deadline for nominations is **1 September 2002**. Please send nominations, including the nomination category and complete contact information for the nominee, to Erica Fleishman, Center for Conservation Biology, Department of Biological Sciences, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-5020, [efleish@stanford.edu](mailto:efleish@stanford.edu).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## New Publications

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) announces the publication by Island Press of *Terrestrial ecoregions of the Indo-Pacific: a conservation assessment*. This book offers a comprehensive examination of the state of the Indo-Pacific's biodiversity, habitats, and conservation status of ecoregions, including the amount and distribution of remaining habitat. Lists of endemic bird and mammal species are presented by ecoregion as part of appendices that describe in detail each of the 140 ecoregions in the Indo-Pacific. This volume follows *Terrestrial Ecoregions of North America* and *Freshwater Ecoregions of North America*. Contact Eric Wikramanayake, Eric.Wikramanayake@wwfus.org, or Colby Loucks, colby.loucks@wwfus.org.

Carnivore Conservation ([www.carnivoreconservation.org/](http://www.carnivoreconservation.org/)) provides information on carnivore ecology and conservation, including meetings and job opportunities. News headlines are updated daily. An extensive database of carnivore literature is also available. Most sections are separated into the cat, canid, bear, and mustelid families. Subscribers to the Carnivore Discussion List receive weekly news in digest form.

## Educational Opportunity

Distance Sampling Workshops will be held 14–21 August 2002 at the University of St Andrews, St Andrews, Fife, Scotland. An introductory workshop (14–16 August) will focus on standard distance sampling methods, including survey design and methods of analysis. The Advanced Workshop (19–21 August) will address automated survey design, adaptive sampling, and spatial modeling of density. Costs are reduced for students. Contact Workshop Organisers, CREEM, Mathematical Institute, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, Fife, Scotland, KY16 9SS, (+44) (0) 1334 363813, FAX (+44) (0) 1334 363714, cathy@mcs.st-and.ac.uk or rhona@mcs.st-and.ac.uk.

## Meetings

The International Society for Ecosystem Health and Conservation International will hold a meeting 6–11 June 2002 in Washington, D.C. to examine linkages between biodiversity, ecosystem health, and human health. For details on *Healthy Ecosystems, Healthy People* contact (519) 661-2111 x 86223, [help@ecosystemhealth.com](mailto:help@ecosystemhealth.com), [www.ecosystemhealth.com/help](http://www.ecosystemhealth.com/help).

The Wildlife Society will hold its ninth annual conference, *Excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education*, 24–28 September 2002 in Bismarck, North Dakota. Contact The Wildlife Society, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 897-9770, FAX (301) 530-2471, [twswildlife.org](mailto:twswildlife.org), [www.wildlife.org](http://www.wildlife.org).

Defenders of Wildlife will host *Carnivores 2002* from 17–20 November 2002 in Monterey, California. The conference will focus on biology and conservation of a full range of marine and terrestrial predators. Contact Sharon Wilcox, Defenders of Wildlife, 1101 14th St., NW, Suite 1400, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 789-2844 x 315, [carnivores2002@defenders.org](mailto:carnivores2002@defenders.org), [www.defenders.org/carnivores2002](http://www.defenders.org/carnivores2002).

The Third International Wildlife Management Congress, *From north to south—from mountains to sea*, will be held 1–5 December 2003 in Christchurch, New Zealand. The meeting will be hosted by Manaaki Whenua/Landcare Research (New Zealand), The Wildlife Society (USA), Australasian Wildlife Management Society, Ngai Tahu (Maori tribe of New Zealand's South Island), and the New Zealand Department of Conservation. For information contact 3rd IWMC, Conference Office, Centre for Continuing Education, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch, New Zealand, 64 3 364 2915, FAX 64 3 364 2057, [wildlife@cont.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:wildlife@cont.canterbury.ac.nz), [www.conference.canterbury.ac.nz/wildlife\\_2003](http://www.conference.canterbury.ac.nz/wildlife_2003).

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