

ANNUAL REPORT: June 1, 2009 – May 31, 2010
(i.e., Summer 2009, AY 2009-2010)
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND FOREST BIOLOGY
SUNY-ESF

NAME: William F. Porter

I. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Regular Course Offerings

	<u>Course No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Credit Hrs.</u>	<u>No. Students</u>	<u>No. of Lab. Sections</u>
SUMMER:	513	Adirondack Forest Ecology & Mgmt*	2	11	1
FALL:	493	Wildlife Habitats/Populations	4	35	2
	693	Wildlife Habitats/Populations	4	9	1
SPRING:	484	Winter Mammalian Ecology	2	17	1
	684	Winter Mammalian Ecology	2	4	1

NOTE: PLEASE INDICATE WHICH COURSE(S) HAD A SERVICE-LEARNING COMPONENT AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN THE NATURE OF THIS COMPONENT. For examples of service-learning in courses, see: <http://www.esf.edu/students/service/courses.htm>. Service-learning is a form of structured experiential education in which students engage with the community to be active learners, to enrich their sense of civic responsibility, and to explore practical application for course content. Faculty oversight, reflective thinking, and reciprocity are key components of service-learning. EFB courses currently listed with service-learning components include: 416/6/1, 486, 518, 521, 532, 446/646.

2. Non-Scheduled Course Offerings (e.g., 496, 899, 999)

	<u>Course No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Credit Hrs.</u>	<u>No. Students</u>	
SUMMER:	899	Masters Thesis Research	1	1	
FALL:	498	Research Problems	1	1	
	899	Masters Thesis Research	1-6	5	
	999	Doctoral Thesis Research	1-5	4	
SPRING:	796	Winter Ecology	2	1	1
	797	Research Topics in Wildlife	1	8	1
	899	Masters Thesis Research	1-8	3	
	999	Doctoral Thesis Research	1-7	6	

3. Continuing Education and Extension (short courses, workshops, etc.)

None

4. Guest Lecture Activities

<u>Course No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>No. of Lectures</u>
EFB	Freshman Seminar	2

II. STUDENT ADVISING

A. Number of undergraduates for whom you are the student's official advisor 30 and unofficial advisor 10

B. Graduate Students: (Name, degree sought, starting date, month & year; if a degree was completed, please give date and full citation for the thesis or dissertation).

MAJOR PROFESSOR

Zysik, Jonathan	MS	Entered Sept 2002
Amy Dechen Quinn	PhD	Entered July 2003 – Completed May 2010
Frank DeSantis	MS	Entered Sept 2004
David Williams	PhD	Entered Sept 2005 – Completed June 2010
Matthew Smith	MS	Entered May 2007 – Completed Dec 2009
Megan Skrip	MS	Entered May 2007 – Completed May 2010
Brigham Whitman	MS	Entered Aug 2008
Giancarlo Sadoti	PhD	Entered Aug 2009
Michelle Peach	PhD	Entered Aug 2009

CO-MAJOR PROFESSOR

Kevin Jablonski*	MS	Entered Sept 2007
Abigail Larkin**	MS	Entered Aug 2008
Megan Kirchgesner***	PhD	Entered Aug 2009

*Co-Major with S. McNulty

**Co-Major with C. Beier
***Co-Major with C. Whipps

Dechen Quinn, Amy. 2010. Influences of movement behavior and space use in evaluating disease risk among white-tailed deer in central New York. Doctoral Dissertation. State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Syracuse. 127 pp.

Skip, Megan M. 2010. Fall-winter survival, habitat, and long-term population change of ruffed grouse in New York State. Masters Thesis. State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Syracuse. 117 pp.

Smith, Matthew C. 2009. White-tailed deer migration in the Adirondack Park: mechanisms and implications for spread of infectious disease. Masters Thesis. State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Syracuse. 60 pp.

Williams, David M. 2010. Scales of movement and contact structure of white-tailed deer in central New York. Doctoral Dissertation. State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Syracuse. 140 pp.

MEMBER, STEERING COMMITTEE (other than those listed above)

Christine Boser
Catherine Haase
Robin Holevinski

CHAIRMAN OR READER ON THESIS EXAMS, ETC.

Alison Taroli, FNRM
Raphael Klake, ERFE

III. RESEARCH COMPLETED OR UNDERWAY

A. Departmental Research (unsupported, boot-legged; title - % time spent)

1. Landscape and habitat characteristics of moose-vehicle accidents in Maine (Zachary Danks thesis); 1%
2. Influence of residential communities on surrounding wilderness in the Adirondacks (Elizabeth Dowling thesis) 1%
3. Survey of Public Priorities as a Guide for Sustainable Investment Strategies in the Four 6 Northern Forest States 2%

B. 1. Grant-supported Research (source, subject, amount - total award and current year, award period starting and ending dates; list graduate research assistants supported by each grant)

Montrakis, G., W. Porter, B. Zuckerberg and C. Beier. National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Using LIDAR to assess the roles of climate and land-cover change as drivers of biodiversity. \$709,682, \$230,124, 9/1/09 – 8/31/12.

Porter, W. National Wild Turkey Federation. Regional strategies for harvest management based on landscape-scale habitat and weather effects on wild turkey populations, \$73,716, 3/1/09 – 12/31/11.

Porter, W. NYS Chapter – National Wild Turkey Federation. Regional strategies for harvest management based on landscape-scale habitat and weather effects on wild turkey populations, \$5,000, 3/1/09 – 12/31/11.

Porter, W. and S. McNulty. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Application of GIS to resource inventory for unit management planning, \$507,794, \$103,897, 6/1/03 – 8/31/09, Steve Signell, Senior Research Support Specialist.

Porter, W., S. McNulty and A. Dechen. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, A risk assessment of a chronic wasting disease outbreak in New York, \$1,008,190, \$68,000, 8/1/05 – 12/31/09, Amy Dechen Quinn and David Williams.

Porter, W. F and A. C. Dechen. USDI – Geological Survey. Risk assessment of chronic wasting disease outbreak in New York. \$31,517, \$5,000, 6/1/07 – 9/30/09

Porter, W. USDA Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service/McIntire Stennis. A risk assessment for the spread of chronic wasting disease in the Adirondack Park, \$100,659, \$22,899, 10/1/06 – 8/31/09, Matthew Smith.

Porter, W. New York Department of Environmental Conservation. Fall and winter survival of ruffed grouse in different landscapes of New York. \$168,103, \$34,000, 7/1/07 – 6/30/10, Megan Skrip

At Adirondack Ecological Center

Canon, G., R. Quinn, W. Porter and P. Hai. USDA – Environmental Protection Smart Growth Grant Program. Business Planning for the Northern Forest Institute at the Adirondack Ecological Center. \$50,000, \$50,000, 7/1/08 – 6/30/10.

Martens, J., W. Porter and P. Hai. Empire State Development Corporation, Masten House and Northern Forest Conservation Education Institute. \$1,000,000, \$1,000,000, 6/1/07 – 6/1/12.

Porter, W. and J. Farrell. US Dept of Housing and Urban Development. Acquisition, renovation and struction of facilities in the North Country for Economic Development and Improvement. \$347,935, \$347,935, 6/1/04 – 1/22/09.

Porter, W., P. Hai and S. McNulty. National Science Foundation High speed wireless Internet installation at the Adirondack Ecological Center. \$154,700, \$154,700, 9/1/08 – 8/31/10

Porter, W. and P. Hai. New York State Construction Fund. Renovation of the Carriage House Teleconference and Distance Learning Center. \$2,500,000, \$2,500,000, 7/1/08 – 6/30/13.

Porter, W. and P. Hai. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Northern Forest Conservation Education and Leadership Training. \$125,000, \$125,000, 7/1/08 – 6/30/09

Porter, W. and P. Hai Town of Newcomb. Infrastructure Development at Huntington Wildlife Forest. \$91,000, \$38,000, 5/1/09 – 1/31/11.

Porter, W. R. Quinn and P. Hai. Town of Newcomb. Development of Infrastructure and Expansion of Programs at the Adirondack Ecological Center. \$159,000, \$159,000, 5/1/09 – 1/31/11.

2. Research Proposals pending (include information as in B.1., above).

Porter, W. NYS Department of Transportation. Predicting Moose Travel Patterns in Relation to Major Transportation Corridors in the Adirondack Region of NYS. \$400,000. 9/1/10 – 8/31/2014.

3. Research Proposals submitted, but rejected (include information as in B.1, above)

IV. PUBLICATIONS (Full bibliographic citation, i.e., do not use "with Jones," or "Jones, et al."; please list only publications published, in press, or actually submitted during this reporting period --- **do not list manuscripts in preparation**).

A. Refereed Publications

Danks, Z. D. and W. F. Porter. 2010. Temporal, spatial, and landscape habitat characteristics of moose-vehicle collisions in western Maine. *Journal of Wildlife Management*. In Press.

Zuckerberg, B., A. M. Woods and W. F. Porter. 2009. Poleward shifts in breeding birds in New York State. *Global Change Biology* 15:1866-1883.

Zuckerberg, B. and W. F. Porter. 2010. Thresholds in the long-term responses of breeding birds to forest cover and fragmentation. *Biological Conservation* 143(4): 952-962.

B. Non-refereed Publications

None

C. Papers Presented at Science Meetings (give title, date, occasion, and location)

Cox, G. L., J. D. Erickson, T. P. Holmes, W. F. Porter and A. M. Woods. June 2009. Survey of public priorities as a guide for future investment strategies in the Northern Forest. U.S. Society for Ecological Economics. Washington, D.C.

Dechen Quinn, A., D. M. Williams and W. F. Porter. August 2009. Space use and resource selection of white-tailed deer in New York: Implications for disease spread. Ecological Society of America, Albuquerque, NM.

Porter, W. F., Dechen Quinn, A. C. and D. M. Williams. September, 2009. Identifying Capture-Related Mortality Using Post-Capture Movement Rates of White-tailed Deer. Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Monterey, CA.

Porter, W. F. Estimating harvest potential for wild turkeys in New York. February 2010. Annual Convention of the National Wild Turkey Federation, Nashville, TN.

Skrip, M. M. and W. F. Porter. September 2009. Habitat and fall-winter survival of ruffed grouse in New York State. Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Monterey, CA.

Skrip, M. M. January, 2010. Habitat and fall-winter survival of ruffed grouse in New York State. Annual Meeting of the New York State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, Waterloo, NY.

Williams, D. M., A. C. Dechen Quinn and W. F. Porter. September, 2009. Contact structure of white-tailed deer in New York: Informing risk models and management decisions. Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society, Monterey, CA.

Williams D.M., A. C. Dechen Quinn, W. F. Porter. July 2009. Contact structure of white-tailed deer in New York: informing risk models and management decisions. 3rd Annual Chronic Wasting Disease Symposium, Salt Lake City, UT.

Williams D. M., A. C. Dechen Quinn, W. F. Porter. June 2009. Contact structure of white-tailed deer in New York: informing risk models and management decisions. American Society of Mammalogists Annual Conference, Fairbanks, AK.

D. Public Service Presentations (lectures, seminars, etc. to and for the public; give group or occasion, date(s), and attendance)

Porter, W. Science, sustainability and Roosevelt's doctrine of conservation. Keynote address: ESF Spotlight on Research, April 2010, 50 people.

Porter, W. The great experiment in conservation. Creekside Books. Skaneateles, NY, August, 2009, 20 people.

Skrip, M. Habitat and fall-winter survival of ruffed grouse Montezuma Bird of the Month Series—Montezuma Audubon Center, Savannah, NY. November 8, 2009, 40 people.

V. PUBLIC SERVICE

A. Funded Service (include consulting activities)

1. Government Agencies (Federal, State, Local):

None

2. Industrial and Commercial Groups, etc.

None

B. Unfunded Service to Governmental Agencies, Public Interest Groups, etc.

None

VI. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Professional Honors and Awards (for teaching, research, outreach, etc.)

“Highly Recommended” designation for our book, “The Great Experiment in Conservation” in *Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*.

Invitation to apply for the Boone and Crockett Chair of Wildlife Conservation at Michigan State University.

B. 1. Activities in Professional Organizations (offices held, service as chairman, member, participant or consultant)

President, Adirondack Research Consortium
Chair, Science Advisory Committee, Shingle Shanty Preserve and Research Station

2. Professional Society Membership

Adirondack Research Consortium
American Society of Mammalogists
Ecological Society of America
National Wild Turkey Federation
The Wildlife Society

3. Other Professional Activities

a. Editorial activity

<u>Journal (s)</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
Adirondack Journal of Environmental Science	Editorial Board
<u>Other (books, symposia, etc.)</u>	

b. Reviewer

<u>Journal(s)</u>	<u>No. of manuscripts</u>
Journal of Wildlife Management	2

<u>Agency</u>	<u>No. of proposals</u>
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Other

External review of faculty member nominated for an award at the University of Georgia 1

c. Participation (workshops, symposia, etc.)

Name of workshop, etc.

Date

Place

Boone and Crockett Midwest Summit on the Future of Wildlife Conservation, March,
2010, East Lansing, MI

C. Further Education/Re-training Undertaken, Leaves, Workshops, etc.

None

D. Foreign Travel (Where, When, Purpose)

None

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE AND SERVICE RESPONSIBILITIES (include committee participation)

A. Department-level

Coordinator, R. T. King Award
Member, Graduate Committee

B. College-level

Director, Adirondack Ecological Center
Director, Roosevelt Wild Life Station
Review Committee, Sussman Internship

C. University-wide, including Research Foundation

VIII. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD, ESPECIALLY THOSE MOST NOTEWORTHY AND RELATIVE TO THE COLLEGE'S AND DEPARTMENT'S MISSION. One paragraph on each of the following would be most helpful: this past year, what have you done for our students, department/college, and self professionally? NOTE: The information in this section (along with the supporting specific information elsewhere in this report) should be your strongest case for being considered for a discretionary raise, which I'll continue to award based on your contributions to the department and college this reporting period.

As my last annual report to EFB, this is bittersweet. With the support of outstanding Teaching Assistants and colleagues, both of my courses, EFB 484 – Winter Mammalian Ecology and EFB 493 – Management of Wildlife Habitats and Populations, were perhaps the best I've presented. Consequently, I am saddened by the fact that this year was my last in teaching these courses. Similarly, I completed 2 MS and 2 PhD students who were among the best I've seen in my career. The defenses of Matt Smith and Megan Skrip were exemplary. Amy Dechen Quinn and David Williams may have produced what we hope for from every doctoral research project, a paradigm shift. Manuscripts by Zak Danks and Ben Zuckerberg, accepted for publication in the Journal of Wildlife Management and in Biological Conservation, are among the best work coming out of my lab. I have never been more pleased.

Contributions to the department and the College are related to the accomplishments at the Adirondack Ecological Center. A total of 73 research projects were underway and 39 refereed publications were produced in the past year. There were 454 students attending credit-bearing courses conducted in part or entirely at the AEC. The number of people reached via AEC staff public service and professional presentations was 2,150. Combined with non-ESF users, 54 faculty and scientists accessed HWF resources for research and student instruction, up 20% from last year. Efforts toward *Building for the Future* resulted in near-completion of a \$350,000 restoration of Huntington Lodge. All furnishings for the Lodge are being provided by Stickley-Audi Furniture through discounts and a matching donation from the company. A lease was signed with Open Space Institute for use of the Masten House, providing a new venue for interdisciplinary educational experiences. An addition to the Rich Lake Dining Center was completed and all dining room furnishing were replaced with funds received through Congressman McHugh and a large grant from the Town of Newcomb. A \$154,000 award was received from the National Science Foundation for installation of a wireless Internet system that now provides high-speed access for students in the bunkhouses, and residents in Huntington and Arbutus Lodges, and adjacent buildings, as well as Physical Plant staff at the Stone Carriage House. Further, it will soon support emerging technologies that use wireless Internet access in the field. The system is built around a novel application of radio receiver and transmitter equipment on Goodnow fire-tower that is powered by photovoltaic arrays. The pace of growth in both infrastructure and program activity has never been greater.

Finally, I am deeply honored to have been selected as the new Boone and Crockett Chair of Wildlife Conservation at Michigan State University. Few endowed chairs exist in wildlife and I recognize the responsibility associated with this position. My charge will be much as it has been at ESF – to build a research program that will help foster a stronger relationship between science and conservation policy. The focus will broaden from the Adirondacks and New York State to the Northern Forest and national programs. I honestly did not conceive of ever moving from ESF because I have enjoyed every day of the past 32 years. As I came to know Michigan State and the Boone and Crockett Club, I was drawn by the scope of what they are seeking to achieve in the future academic experience for students, their intent to have significant impact on the large challenges facing wildlife conservation and the resources they bring to these efforts. I learned a lot about teaching, mentoring and leadership at ESF and I look forward to applying those lessons in new arenas.

IX. A. FUTURE PLANS, AMBITIONS, AND POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR YOUR OWN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE PROGRAM IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND FOREST BIOLOGY (brief summary)

My last official day will be August 15 at the Huntington Alumni Reunion. On August 16, I begin at Michigan State University and fly immediately to Montana to the annual meeting of the Boone and Crockett Club.

B. PROJECTED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT YEAR

1. Summer 2009
 - a. Course(s) to be offered
 - b. Proposed research activity

c. University, professional society, and public service

2. Fall Semester 2009

a. Course(s) to be offered

b. Proposed research activity

c. University, Professional society, and public service

3. Spring Semester 2010

a. Course(s) to be offered

b. Proposed research activity

c. University, professional society, and public service